

TITLE	PLAYER EVALUATIONS
POLICY #	Operational - 8.1
APPROVED DATE	April 25, 2024
REVISED DATE	
OWNED BY	Executive Committee

1.0 OVERVIEW

Banff Minor Hockey Association (BMHA or the Association) recognizes that the evaluation process is important to players, parents/guardians, evaluators and the Association. All efforts are directed to ensuring that the evaluation process allows a player to demonstrate their hockey ability and skills through a fair unbiased process, to group our athletes, so that we can provide them with a meaningful competition for the season.

This policy covers the evaluations process for skaters being evaluated within the U9 to U18 divisions

The intent of the BMHA Player Evaluation Policy is to accurately place players on appropriate teams based on skill and ability through a fair, unbiased, professional and fun evaluation process.

2.0 POLICY

2.1 All registration fees must be paid in full, or arrangement made to pay by payments prior to the player attending evaluations.

2.2 During evaluations players will be assigned a numbered jersey or pinnie and all BMHA evaluations shall be completed utilizing that players number to identify them. Every effort should be made to ensure a player remains anonymous to evaluators during evaluations.

2.3 All skaters must participate in all levels of evaluations according to the schedules that will be emailed out prior to and during the evaluation process. The player evaluation process is based on assessing player skills, abilities and knowledge as they apply to the game of hockey.

These steps could include:

2.3.1 Player Evaluation Skill Skates (maximum of 2 per skater).

2.3.2 Scrimmage Games (maximum of 2 per skater).

2.4 For all Evaluation Skill Skates and Scrimmage Games, BMHA commits to have a few volunteer evaluators made up of parents and potential coaches from various divisions as well as community members, non-BMHA members, to observe the skates and to rank the players

2.4.1 Evaluators should have experience with player evaluation.

2.4.2 Suitable background in hockey either as a player or coach.

2.4.3 Evaluators must not have a player in the age group being evaluated.

2.4.4 If possible, the ability to evaluate for the full-time frame to help with consistency and continuity.

2.4.5 Community Members, non-BMHA members, are subject to approval by the Coaching Coordinator

2.5 All data from Evaluation Skill Skates and Scrimmage Games will be input into the designated Software or Excel to rank the players using the data collected. No player should be contained in any other application besides the designated Software.

2.6 All questions concerning the decision or process of the Evaluation Committee shall be directed to the Coaching Coordinator. Player evaluation and placement is not subject to the right to appeal. (See Operational Policy – 8.1.2 Evaluation Grievance Policy)

3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

3.1 Although it is impossible to eliminate all subjectivity, or previous coach/player experiences, the selection process will attempt to only reflect on-ice performance during the evaluation period based on the data provided by the evaluators.

3.2 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 on their individual skills. The evaluation sheets and the ranking criteria are only made available to the Evaluation Committee. The Evaluation Committee will be composed of

the Coaching Coordinator, President, Registrar and two more individuals either from the BMHA executive or qualified BMHA coaches.

3.3 Any Evaluator or member of the Evaluation Committee will remove themselves from any discussions or decisions that are required to be made regarding the division (age group) of their own child.

3.4 Any injury, illness or other absence which prevents a player from completing the evaluations will be dealt with by the Evaluation Committee via the Operational Policy – 8.1.1 - Injured Player Policy. The Evaluation Committee shall be entitled to utilize prior season evaluations, prior season level of play and prior coach reviews in deciding of placement. Please note however that all players are strongly encouraged to make every effort to attend evaluations as relying on previous season information is not as accurate and may result in your child being placed in a lower tier than expected.

3.5 The numbers gathered in the Evaluations process will be the data used to place players on teams, note that injured players may cause changes in the data and/or placement.

3.6 Attendance during the Evaluations is mandatory. Failure to participate in any scheduled evaluation session will result in the following unless it is due to an injury, an extenuating circumstance (requires Evaluation Committee approval) or serious illness and then you would refer to the Operational Policy 8.1.1 - Injured Player Policy.

3.6.1 If a player misses an Evaluation Skills Skate or Scrimmage Game, they will be automatically placed in the lowest group

4.0 EVALUATION PROCEDURES

4.1 All skaters will have a minimum of one Evaluation Skills Skate and a minimum of one Scrimmage Game.

4.2 During the Evaluation Skills Skate all players will perform the same drills, measured in the same manner, throughout the division. Skills tested may include skating (forwards and backwards), shooting and passing. Drills will be division specific and based on the expected proficiency of each age group.

4.3 For U11 and up Scrimmage Games will be 5 on 5, run-time game play, with 60 to 90 second shifts, live puck depending on division. For the U11, being non-positional, all skaters must play all positions during each Scrimmage Game. For U9 Scrimmage Game

play will be 4 on 4, with a player in net, half ice, run-time game play, with 90 second shift intervals, live puck.

4.3 During the Scrimmage Games the evaluators will be ranking the players top to bottom in U9 and U11 and positionally (top to bottom Forwards and Defense) for U13 and up. It is possible that players may be asked to sit out of evaluation skates and or games if it is clear to evaluators that the player will be locked onto a team. This is a tool the evaluations team may (or may not) utilize to assist in identifying applicable players for the teams.

4.4 When in the “war room” discussing the rankings of each skater the Coaching Coordinator will mediate the room and will need to deal with any “Red number/outside of the standard deviation” rankings that come up. They will need to either remove them if it is not detrimental to the skater or have more discussion as to why the evaluator ranked them as such and make notes beside the player for later discussion and information.

4.5 After all of the Scrimmage Games the final movements will be made and then the Evaluations committee will move to Team Creation process considering any Injured Players, etc. *(See Operational Policy 8.4 – Team Creation)*