

TITLE	INJURED PLAYER POLICY
POLICY #	Operation - 8.1.1
APPROVED DATE	April 25, 2024
REVISED DATE	
OWNED BY	Executive Committee

1.0 OVERVIEW

This policy covers how to deal with injured players at the beginning of the hockey season for Evaluations, whether the player was injured during evaluations or before they started.

2.0 DEFINITION OF ‘INJURED’

A player shall be designated INJURED when the following conditions apply:

- 2.1** Substantial injury has been sustained, and;

- 2.2** Participation in Evaluations is not possible or would be at a level recognizably below expectation,

- and;

- 2.3** Medical documentation advising against participation in on-ice activity has been obtained.

- Recognized injures include, but are not limited to:
- Broken bones
 - Concussions
 - Hospitalizations
 - Quarantine requirements

Illnesses, such as a cold or stomach flu are not considered injuries unless accompanied by medical documentation.

Medical documentation of the injury is required. A letter from a physician or AHS stating the extent of the injury, duration of recovery and expected return date for sport participation should be sent to the Coaching Coordinator as soon as possible after the injury.

3.0 DURATION OF INJURY

3.1 An injury obtained pre or mid-evaluations does not preclude the player from returning.

3.2 Once a player is placed on the injured list, they shall remain there until notification of clearance is sent to the Coaching Coordinator. A player designated under the policy must return to the evaluation process upon clearance of documented injury.

3.3 The duration of the injury and recovery shall be determined by a medical professional and submitted to the association for determination of placement. In the event that a range of dates is provided (i.e. 4 to 6-week recovery), the association will always default to the maximum recovery time.

3.4 An injury resulting in an expected Return to Sport date beyond November 30th will void the injured player's placement on any CAHL team. In this instance, upon clearance by a medical professional, the player may be placed on an RHL or Pond team, availability dependent.

4.0 ASSESSMENT OF INJURED PLAYER

4.1 Player Completes 1 or more Evaluation Skates Prior to the Injury

A player who has completed any Evaluation Skates or Scrimmage Games within the evaluation process shall be ranked and placed on a team according to the data recorded and previous head coach recommendations. Just like all other skaters, at the completion of all Evaluation skates, injured players will achieve an Overall Rank Value, placing them within the Overall Ranking list with all skaters. Placement on teams is based on the Overall Ranking list as long as the player will have a Return to Play date prior to November 30th as stated in 3.4.

4.2 Player Injured Prior to Start of Evaluation

Injured players are assessed on a case-by-case basis. A player injured prior to the start of Evaluations shall have the following criteria considered prior to team placement

- Previous season evaluations
- Previous season level of play/team placement
- Previous head coach recommendation and/or review

Team placement is at the discretion of the Executive Committee as long as the player will have a Return to Play date prior to November 30th as stated in 3.4. In this situation, placement of injured players may cause lower ranked skaters within the system to experience Overall Rank Value adjustments.

5.0 REALIGNMENT POLICY

In the event that team placement is blatantly incorrect, and the injured player is obviously on a team too strong, it is possible to move him/her down a team and move the top player from the lower team up. This would only be done in extreme cases. Under no circumstances would an injured player be moved up after the team creation process is complete.