

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>INTRO TO HOCKEY EVALUATIONS</b>
<b>POLICY #</b>	Operational 8.2
<b>APPROVED DATE</b>	April 25, 2024
<b>REVISED DATE</b>	
<b>OWNED BY</b>	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 at ensuring that the evaluation process allows a player to demonstrate their hockey ability and skills through a fair unbiased process.

This policy covers the evaluation process for skaters being evaluated within the Intro to Hockey U7 and U9 divisions.

## **2.0 POLICY**

**2.1** All registration and tryout/evaluation fees must be paid in full, or arrangements made to pay by payments prior to the player attending Intro to Hockey evaluations.

**2.2** If timed trials are utilized, a reasonable effort will be made to ensure that an independent company will be hired to facilitate the time trial session through a variety of different age-appropriate drills.

**2.3** During evaluations players will be assigned a numbered pinnie and all BMHA evaluations shall be completed utilizing that player's number to identify them. Every effort should be made to ensure players remain anonymous to evaluators during evaluations.

**2.5** All skaters will also need to wear either plain black or white socks during the evaluation process.

**2.6** All players must participate in all skates of the evaluations according to the schedules that will be emailed out prior to and during the evaluation process.

These steps include:

**2.4.1** Evaluation Skates (maximum of 2 per skater/stream)

**2.4.2** Evaluation Game (maximum of 1 per skater/stream)

**2.7** For all Evaluation Skates, BMHA commits to have a few volunteer evaluators made up of parents and potential coaches from various divisions to observe the skates and to rank the players.

**2.9.1** Evaluators need to have some experience with player evaluation.

**2.9.2** Background in hockey either as a player or coach.

**2.9.3** Preferably from a different division than they have children in.

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

**2.8** All data from evaluation skates and games will be input either into the designated Software or Excel to rank the players using the data collected. The Time Trial data will rank the players from top to bottom and this data will be used to divide the players up into groups for the evaluation skates.

**2.9** The teams will be created after the evaluation skates and approved as per the Team Creation section 5.0 below.

**2.10** All questions concerning the decision or process of the Evaluation Committee shall be directed to the Division Coordinator. Player evaluation and placement is not subject to the right to appeal. (See Grievance Policy #8.1.2)

### **3.0 EVALUATION PHASE**

**3.1** No evaluation skates prior to or during the first week of school.

**3.2** Must provide a minimum of 4 skates before the evaluation begins, this will be in the form of the Prep Skates included in the registration fee.

**3.3** Must provide a minimum of 2 evaluation skates before grouping of players on teams.

#### **4.0 GENERAL INFORMATION**

**4.1** 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.

**4.2** 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 at each level will be comprised of the applicable Director and Coordinator of the Division, Evaluations Coordinator, BMHA Executive, and Staff.

**4.3** Any Evaluator or member of the Evaluation Committee will remove themselves from any discussions or decisions that are required to be made regarding his or her own child.

**4.4** Any injury, illness, or other absence which prevents a player from completing the evaluations will be dealt with by the Evaluation Committee on an individual circumstance basis. The Evaluations Committee will look to the Operational Policy – 8.1.1 Injured Player Policy for guidance, however with players new to hockey or players that were not ranked at the end of the past season, it will be hard to use the software, therefore for the Competitive U9 teams the Evaluations Committee may use prior season evaluations, prior season level of play and prior coach reviews in making a determination 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 the City league.

**4.5** 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 or serious illness and then you would refer above or to the Operational Policy 8.1.1 – Injured Player Policy.

**4.5.2** If a player misses an Evaluation skate, they will fall one group for the next

evaluation skate.

## **5.0 EVALUATION PROCEDURES**

**5.2** The Evaluation Games will be 4 on 4, with a player in net, half ice, run-time gameplay, with 60-second shift intervals, and live puck. All skaters must play all positions during each evaluation skate.

**5.3** During the Evaluation Skates the Evaluators will be ranking the players from top to bottom. At the conclusion of each division's skates for the day, the Evaluations Committee will then decide based on the ranking numbers, given by all evaluators, that were input into the designated Software, how many skaters will move up or down for the next skate based on the mathematical breaking point. There could be anywhere from 0 – 8 players approximately move groups after each skate.

**5.4** When in the “war room” discussing the rankings of each skater the Evaluations Coordinator will mediate the room and will need to deal with any “Red number/outside 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.

**5.5** After the two Evaluation Skates, the players will be ranked top to bottom. Each season based on registration number analysis, the Executive Committee will determine the number of teams for each division. The top players will be placed on the Black Bear team, striving for 18 players per team and the rest of the players will be divided up into the remaining number of Grizzly Bear teams