



## **MMHA Evaluation Policy (Representative Hockey)**

The Ontario Hockey Federation implemented the new policy regarding player movement for the 2025 - 2026 hockey season at all levels of representative hockey U10 - U18. OHF and / or OMHA policies for player movement, player evaluation, team selection, and the pathway will be followed at each age group.

### **Process:**

- a. MMHA will follow the OHF seasonal calendar and all OHF and / or OMHA guidelines.
- b. Players need to be registered for evaluations through HCR in order to attend evaluations and be offered a spot on the team.
- c. If a player has an outstanding financial or equipment commitment to the Association that is properly recorded in the HCR as (Outstanding Fees), the player is ineligible to participate in player evaluations until the outstanding financial or equipment commitment is settled.
- d. Players are required to register with all associations and/or age divisions for which they want to attend evaluations.
- e. A younger player who wants to participate on a team at an older age division will be required to follow MMHA Player Movement Policy.
- f. For each age division, the evaluation process will be facilitated by an age division coordinator from the administrative board.
- g. Coaches will be provided lists of registered players.
- h. Coaches have the authority from OHF to sign players and goalies on the first day of evaluations. Evaluation skates are still strongly encouraged and necessary for the formation of a well balanced and competitive team.
- i. Players who are registered by the date of the first scheduled evaluation, can attend the first three scheduled evaluations for that age division before they can be released.
- j. Players are eligible to enter evaluations at any point within the evaluation window and will have the same opportunity to make the team as players who started at the beginning.
- k. All players will be provided a MMHA jersey for each evaluation; the player name will be recorded with jersey colour and number.
- l. Only the jersey colour and number will be recorded on the evaluation sheets.
- m. Jerseys must be returned at the end of each evaluation skate.
- n. Offers of registration can be offered at any time as of the first day evaluations are able to commence based on OHF policy. This date varies by age division and center level.
- o. Players offered a position on a MMHA representative team, will be sent a unique link to register for the season through HCR and make the initial payment.
- p. Registration of the player confirms commitment to that MMHA representative team.

- q. Offers are encouraged to be accepted as soon as possible so as to not hold up the selection process. The head coach reserves the right to rescind an offer that is not accepted within 24 hours at their discretion.
- r. Player feedback regarding evaluations for development purposes can be requested in writing from the head coach commencing 24 hours after team placement and no later than 14 days after placement decision has been made.

**Purpose:**

- a. To provide a fair and impartial assessment of a player's abilities and ensure a transparent evaluation process.
- b. To provide coaches with the opportunity and flexibility to build a team based in part on their coaching philosophy and knowledge of player skills and attitude.
- c. To assist in providing an unbiased evaluation of all players, provide recommendations, and support the coach in team selection.
- d. To provide feedback on player development when requested.

**Evaluation Team:**

- a. The evaluation team will be composed of the head coach, age division coordinator, and a group of 2-4 evaluators composed of minimum one independent evaluator not related to any player trying out for the team and who will not be rostered as a bench staff for that team. MMHA administrative board members can be members of the evaluation team.
  - i. Age Division Coordinator will be an appointed administrative board member with no relation to any player or bench staff at that age group.
- b. The evaluation team will be chosen by the coach with assistance as needed from the age division coordinator.
- c. Evaluators should be sufficiently knowledgeable in the level of hockey they are evaluating with prior playing, coaching, or instructional background. Coaching certifications are an asset.
- d. Objective criteria for player selection to be determined by the evaluation team and age division coordinator prior to the first evaluation skate and utilized throughout the process. The established criteria should include focus on skating, puck control, passing, shooting, work ethic, attitude, and/or understanding of the game. Refer to *Hockey Canada Minor Hockey Development Guide Player Evaluation and Selection* for evaluation planning and forms.
- e. At the evaluation skates, evaluation team members will stay separated from other observers, and will not share any results or comments with any player, parent/guardian, or other observers or evaluators.
- f. All members of the evaluation team will make every attempt to attend as many if not all of the evaluation skates but no less than two to fairly assess all players who choose to participate.
- g. Evaluation forms will be submitted to the age division coordinator at the end of the evaluations. and will be reviewed by the age division coordinator and head coach to help inform team selection.
- h. It is important to note that the evaluation team will help inform the head coach's decision but certain aspects of player selection fall outside the scope of what an independent evaluator can provide and therefore the head coach will make all final decisions.

**Team Selection:**

- a. Roster sizes at each age division and category will be determined by the administrative board through discussions with the head coach and the evaluation age division coordinator.
- b. All communication will come from the head coach to players and/or parents/guardians about team placement.
- c. Players who are offered a spot on the team, must complete registration to confirm acceptance to that team.

April 30, 2025.