

# Calmar Minor Hockey Player Evaluation Policy

## Mission Statement

Calmar Minor Hockey Association's mission is to provide player pools (when registrations numbers allow) that will see children placed in groups that meet their current development & skill sets within the sport of hockey. Player evaluations allow for the enhancement of players enjoyment and involvement within the sport, by allowing players to play with children at the same developmental & aptitude as themselves.

## Goal

Our goal as CMHA is to split the players into developmental pools based on their skill, aptitude and behavior on the ice, to allow for similar development & playing opportunity, both in practice and gameplay, as they continue to learn and play. The player evaluation process will enable CMHA to provide feedback to players, coaches, CMHA board and parents for continued positive development of players within the sport.

## Introduction

Calmar Minor Hockey Association (CMHA) will endeavor to run an evaluation camp to place players where the numbers are sufficient enough to allow for more than one team.

Player evaluation is one of the most challenging tasks for CMHA. An effective and successful team is made up of players on a similar ability & aptitude scale. While this is the ultimate aim of player evaluation, this selection process is often stressful for the players, parents/guardians as well as for coaching staff.

Every minor hockey association has to deal with this, and it often leads to transparency questions, hurt feelings and complaints about why a child was placed here and not there, etc.. This policy is intended to address problems that typically come up year after year, and to explain the team selection process in detail.

There is an FAQ section at the end of this policy to address the most common questions.

## Policy

1. Evaluations shall be available for all players registered in CMHA, where more than one team is needed due to registration numbers.
2. All players currently registered at the time of the player evaluation process are eligible to attend, so long as the following conditions are satisfied:
  - a. Player fees paid in full or appropriate arrangements made before attending evaluation events.
  - b. Required respect in sport parent course must be completed, and not expired, before attending the evaluation event.
3. CMHA evaluations will be performed by outside non-bias individuals, by either a recruited volunteer or paid group approved by CMHA executive.
4. Within any division, player selection to subdivisions shall be on the basis of demonstrated skills, estimates of developmental potential and perceived aptitude and commitment.
5. To give each and every player a fair opportunity to exhibit the range of skills that they possess, they will be evaluated in a game/scrimmage and skill environment. At the younger age levels, a greater emphasis will be placed on the evaluation of skills. As the players get older, the game or scrimmage sessions will have a more significant overall impact on the player's placement within the minor hockey program.
6. Player positions being evaluated will be as follows:
  - a. Novice – all players assessed as skaters.
  - b. Atom – Players are choosing to evaluate in both skills and scrimmage as a goalie only will be evaluated for a goalie only position. Players choosing to evaluate as goalie and skater will be required to participate one scrimmage as a skater and one scrimmage as a goalie.
  - c. Pee wee – Goalies: Players choosing to evaluate in both skills and scrimmage as a goalie only will be evaluated for a goalie only position. Players that are choosing to evaluate as goalie and skater will be required to participate one scrimmage as a skater and one scrimmage as a goalie. Non-Goalies: Players will be evaluated at a Forward or Defense position only.

d. Bantam/Midget - Players will be evaluated at position only – Goalie, Defence or Forward.

7. The player will be evaluated, scored, and placed on teams accordingly. (A,B,C,etc). Players in the middle 30% will be discussed, and placement will be decided on by the Coaches and the Executive. The final decision rests with the Executive committee. If for example the coach of the 'A' team requests a player from the lower end of the grey area, he/she will have to explain and convince the Executive why this player should be placed on the higher team, as the purpose is to place players where they fit best with their abilities the day of the evaluation.

8. 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.

9. CMHA will attempt to provide enhancement feedback, on a simple format to the players (parents), based on the level and ability to retain input.

10. CMHA will endeavor to provide pooled feedback to the team head coach as a tool to provide player development and enhancement for the upcoming season.

11. Any injury, illness or other absence which prevents a player from attending or completing the evaluations will be dealt with by CMHA Executive. The CMHA executive shall be entitled to utilize previous 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 a lower tier than expected.

12. Player movement based on sibling splits – should families choose to keep their children together for economic and convenience purposes, the players will be grouped in the lower tiered team.

13. At no time shall a player be re-assessed or re-evaluated regarding any on-ice evaluation in response to an evaluation issue, concern or grievance.

## Question & Answers

Q. When are the player evaluations?

A. Evaluation camps will be posted on the CMHA website & communicated thru CMHA communication channels.

Q. What exactly happens during the evaluation?

A. The evaluation weekend consists of practice and scrimmage sessions (optionally, with a referee). Players will be run through the drills, the evaluators will grade them and pass the scores to the Executive/Tabulators, who will then add the scores and place the players on a team accordingly.

Q. Do I have to show up for both days of the evaluation?

A. Again, while nothing is mandatory, if you miss a day, you will be scored zero for that day. This could impact where you are placed.

Q. Does my child need to wear full gear?

A. Yes, absolutely.

Q. Do the evaluators know who the players are?

A. No. They are pulled from outside the area, and will score against the jersey number your child will get when they sign in on the first day of the evaluation. They do not, and will not, know the child's name on the ice, nor will they interact with general members of CMHA during the evaluation.

Q. How will I know what team my child is placed on?

A. You will be called by the coach or a member of the executive, following the final team roster placement. Also, the rosters will be posted online.

Q. Will I see where my child placed in the scoring?

A. No, please refer to policy # 7