RANKING PROCEDURE

2018-2019
Table of Contents

2018-2019 RANKING PROCEDURE ................................................................. - 3 -

PARTICIPANTS .......................................................................................... - 3 -
PHILOSOPHY & OBJECTIVES ................................................................. - 3 -
RANKING BY POSITION .......................................................................... - 3 -
GROUPING PLAYERS .................................................................................. - 4 -
PLAYER MOVEMENT ................................................................................... - 4 -
EVALUATORS ............................................................................................. - 4 -
DRILLS, SCrimMAGES, AND EVALUATION CRITERIA .......................... - 4 -
GOALIES ..................................................................................................... - 5 -
TEAM SELECTION ....................................................................................... - 5 -
HYBRID EVALUATION PROCESS ............................................................. - 6 -
FORWARDS .................................................................................................. - 6 -
DEFENCE ...................................................................................................... - 7 -
GOALIES ..................................................................................................... - 8 -
NOVICE AND ATOM CAHL TEAM(s) ....................................................... - 8 -
HOUSE LEAGUE TEAMS .......................................................................... - 9 -
TEAM SELECTION NOTIFICATION ........................................................... - 10 -
PLAYERS ENTERING PROGRAM AFTER THE RANKINGS PROCESS IS COMPLETE .......................................................... - 10 -
APPENDIX I: EVALUATION CRITERIA ................................................... - 11 -
APPENDIX II: EVALUATION CRITERIA - GOALIES ................................. - 11 -
2018-2019 Ranking Procedure

Participants
Please note that this policy primarily explains the procedure for all travel teams in the OMHA. OMHA House team rankings are done by OMHA volunteers as the purpose of those rankings are to pick balanced teams. House teams are all Initiation, Novice House and Atom House. OOAA Rankings are run separate from the OMHA ranking process.

Philosophy & Objectives
Player ranking can be one of the most difficult tasks for a Minor Hockey Association to handle. However, it can also be the foundation for which an association is built. In most cases these rankings are used to place individual players onto teams of similar skill set base. An important factor that is missing in many cases is that Minor Hockey Associations do not use a player’s ranks as a tool for coaches to develop players based on their individual strength and weaknesses. The following are the Objectives of OMHA during our ranking and selection procedure.

☑ This procedure is put in place annually by the OMHA Board to create a fair, open, and impartial assessment of a player’s total hockey ability compared to his peers during both the skill and scrimmage sessions.
☑ To ensure all players have a reasonable opportunity of being selected to a team appropriate to their skill levels as determined during on-ice rankings of the current year.
☑ To provide coaches with the opportunity and flexibility to build a team based in part of the ranking procedure and on their own coaching philosophy and knowledge of players skills and attitude.
☑ Provide consistency and uniformity in the ranking process so that both players and parent expectations are consistent from year to year.
☑ Form teams to maintain balanced and competitive play where athletes can develop and participate equitably in a fun environment throughout the season.

We recognize that it is very difficult to satisfy the expectations of all stakeholders in the ranking process. Extraordinary / unusual circumstances will be dealt with by the OMHA Executive Committee.

Ranking by Position
OMHA will rank players by position for Peewee, Bantam, & Midget. Players will be ranked for the position they have indicated on their registration form. Players are not allowed to change position once the ranking process has begun.

*In Initiation, Novice and Atom players will not be ranked by position except for Atom goaltenders.*
Grouping Players
Players will be grouped for rankings by using age category and division from the previous year as a guideline. Ranking group 1 will be the smallest for the first of 4 or 5 ranking session. Ranking group 2 will be a little bigger and so on for the number of groups we have. This format promotes and is more likely to create a positive environment for the players, by allowing players to move upward. It will not eliminate backward movement, but hopefully will minimize it. The objective is to have all the groups contain approximately the same number of players by the final ranking session. In cases of “New Players” and/or other “unique” situation presented to OMHA, a collaboration of effort between of the divisional director, operations coordinator and executive member(s) to ensure player is placed in an initial group to start the ranking process.

Player Movement
Players will be moved according to their rankings following both skill & skating sessions and put into groups of players with similar ability. As the players progress through the skill & skating sessions and scrimmages their rankings will be combined and will see players placed accordingly. This will allow for player movement based on performance during each ranking session.

Evaluators
For the 2018 Rankings, OMHA has recruited an independent group to oversee the process. The ranking process will start approximately Sept 10, 2018 and end Oct 1, 2018. This group must sit separate from parents and each other to make their assessments independent of each other’s or parents influence. This group will have a marked off section where they will sit in each arena. Parents are expected to leave them alone and do their job.

Rankings for an OMHA member can only be requested in writing for that individual only and only AFTER the final evaluation. This must be done through the division director, 24 hours after that players team selection skate is complete.

Drills, Scrimmages, and Evaluation Criteria
Players will be ranked during separate ice sessions as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Sessions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initiation</td>
<td>1 Tune-Up skate &amp; 2 ice/scrimmage sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Novice House</td>
<td>1 Tune-Up skate &amp; 4 half ice scrimmage sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Novice Travel</td>
<td>2 Skills &amp; Skating sessions &amp; 3 half ice scrimmage sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atom House</td>
<td>1 Tune-Up skate &amp; 4 scrimmage sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atom Travel</td>
<td>1 Skills &amp; Skating sessions &amp; 4 scrimmage sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pee wee</td>
<td>1 Skills &amp; Skating sessions &amp; 4 scrimmage sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bantam</td>
<td>1 Skills &amp; Skating sessions &amp; 4 scrimmage sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midget</td>
<td>4 scrimmage sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>1 Skills &amp; Skating sessions &amp; 3 scrimmage sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midget Female</td>
<td>3 Scrimmage sessions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*For House Tune-Up Skates, the players will not be evaluated
Players trying out in an age category will arrive for their ice time 30 minutes prior to check in and be assigned a team and jersey. They will receive instructions, and information regarding the ranking session at this time. *The criteria for players and goalies is attached as Appendix I and II.

Goalies
Atom, Peewee, Bantam, and Midget goaltenders will be evaluated in a separate goalie technical session(s) as well as during regular scrimmage sessions. Goalies will be required to be on the ice during Skill & Skating sessions but will not be evaluated.

Team Selection
OMHA will place teams in the following league age categories for the 2018/2019 hockey season (subject to change, based on registrations received).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House League (Okotoks Only)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initiation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Novice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rocky Hockey League (RHL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Novice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peewee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bantam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midget</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Central Alberta Hockey League (CAHL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peewee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bantam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atom Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peewee Female</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rocky Mountain Female League (RMFHL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peewee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bantam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midget</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After the ranking process is complete, there will be a team selection skate held with all eligible players for the first team. The coach will finalize his team after that session. The second team will then have their selection
skate with all eligible players. The process will continue until all teams have been selected. All coaches can
handle the team selection skate at their discretion (i.e. drills, scrimmage or combination).

*Please note players may have to attend two practices back-to-back based on ranking.

The number of players placed on each team will be determined by registration.

**Hybrid Evaluation Process**

Each of the two Travel teams in Novice will see the top 8 players (16 total) become a lock based on the
ranking sessions. Same will happen for the 2 Atom tier 1 teams, the top 16 skaters and 2 goalies become a
lock. Each Novice and Atom CAHL team will see the top 8 skaters being protected on each roster. This is
based on no positions being considered for Novice and Atom. Peewee, Bantam and Midget teams will be
picked with the top 5 Forwards, 3 Defence, and 1 goalie being locked based on players individual ranking
through the ranking procedure.

The remaining players based on ranking will form the remainder of each group for the coach’s skate, where a
coach will pick his remaining players. Those not chosen on team 1 will be a lock on team 2. Each coach skate
will see enough skaters on the ice to facilitate the 8 players being released are a lock on the team below. For
example, if Atom 1 is taking 14 skaters, the coach skate will feature 22 players. Those 8 released skaters
become locked on team 2. For example, in Peewee if they are taking 15 skaters (9 forwards/6 defence) then
the coach skate will feature 23 players (14 forwards/9 defence). Players based on ranking will round out each
couch skate group based on ranking once the locked skaters have dropped down. This process and larger
couch skates provide coaches with additional choices for player selection and allows skaters who may have
missed the previous “cut” to skate and earn a position on a higher ranked team, with the guarantee of being
locked on the team below. The top ranked goalie is a lock. The next ranked 2 Goalies will compete for the
remaining 1 Goalie spot and the next ranked Forwards and Defence will compete for the remaining Forward
and Defence positions. This process will continue down through the teams until selections are complete.

The OMHA Directors and Executive Board reserve the right to adjust the size of coach skates based on the
rostered skaters required for each team and or division (14/22, 15/23, 16/24, 17/25).

Players entering the program after the rankings process, please refer to page 10 for full guidelines. These
players do not qualify for any locked position.

For team selection in the Peewee, Bantam, Midget Divisions, players should be listed by position (forward,
defence, and goaltender). Team selection will then be made as follows:

**FORWARDS**

Forwards team 1
If choosing 9 forwards Coach gets list of top 14 with ranking. If choosing 10 or 11 then the top 15 or 16. Coach
chooses his forwards whether it is 9, 10 or 11 out of this. The top 5 forwards based on ranking are a lock,
coach then picks his remaining 3, 4 or 5 forwards. The 5 forwards not picked are now a lock on the team below.

**Forwards team 2**
Any forward not taken on team 1 becomes an automatic lock on 2. If choosing 9 Forwards, the list is given to the coach for the next 14 (these include the locks). If choosing 10 or 11 then the next 15 or 16 (these include the locks). Coach chooses his forwards out of this whether it be 9, 10 or 11 with the locks being those that have come down. The 5 forwards not picked are now a lock on the team below.

**Forwards team 3**
Any forward not taken on team 2 becomes an automatic lock on 3. If choosing 9 Forwards, the list is given to the coach for the next 14 (these include the locks). If choosing 10 or 11 then the next 15 or 16 (these include the locks). Coach chooses his forwards out of this whether it be 9, 10 or 11 with the locks being those that have come down. The 5 forwards not picked are now a lock on the team below.

**Forwards team 4**
Any forward not taken on team 3 becomes an automatic lock on 4. If choosing 9 Forwards, the list is given to the coach for the next 14 (these include the locks). If choosing 10 or 11 then the next 15 or 16 (these include the locks). Coach chooses his forwards out of this whether it be 9, 10 or 11 with the locks being those that have come down. The 5 forwards not picked are now a lock on the team below.

This process continues until all teams in the division are selected.

**DEFENCE**

**Defence team 1**
Coach gets a list of the top 8 or 9 defence with ranking, his top 3 are locks based on the ranking process. Coach then chooses his final defence whether it is 2 or 3 out of the remaining 5 or 6. The defence not picked now become a lock on the team below.

**Defence team 2**
Any Defenceman not taken on team 1 becomes an automatic lock. The coach gets a list of the next 8 or 9 available (these include the locks) and must choose his defence whether it be 2 or 3 out of the remaining 5 or 6. The 3 defence not picked now become a lock on the team below.

**Defence team 3**
Any Defenceman not taken on team 2 becomes an automatic lock. The coach gets a list of the next 8 or 9 available (these include the locks) and must choose his defence whether it be 2 or 3 out of the remaining 5 or 6. The 3 defence not picked now become a lock on the team below.

**Defence team 4**
Any Defenceman not taken on team 3 becomes an automatic lock. The coach gets a list of the next 8 or 9 available (these include the locks) and must choose his defence whether it be 2 or 3 out of the remaining 5 or 6. The 3 defence not picked now become a lock on the team below.

This process continues until all teams in the division are selected.
GOALIES

Goalies team 1
Coach will get a list of the top 3 goalies with ranking. Top ranked Goalie is an automatic lock. He must then choose his final Goalie of the 2 remaining.

Goalies team 2
Any goalie not taken on team 1 becomes an automatic lock. The coach gets a list of the next 3 goalies (these include the locks) and must choose his 1 Goalie from the 2 remaining with the only lock being the goalie not selected for team 1.

Goalies team 3
Any goalie not taken on team 2 becomes an automatic lock. The coach gets a list of the next 3 goalies (these include the locks) and must choose his 1 Goalie from the 2 remaining with the only lock being the goalie not selected for team 2.

Goalies team 4
Any goalie not taken on team 3 becomes an automatic lock. The coach gets a list of the next 3 goalies (these include the locks) and must choose his 1 Goalie from the 2 remaining with the only lock being the goalie not selected for team 3.

Continue until all teams in the division are selected

** If a team is mandated to take only 1 goalie, then in this instance the coach will get a list of the next 2 goalies and must pick 1. There will be no lock in this instance. In certain situations goalies may be placed on teams in varies orders due to limited numbers. For example: T1 - 2 goalies, T2 - 1 goalie, T3 - 2 goalies, T4 - 1 goalie, T5 - 2 goalies.

Novice and Atom CAHL team(s)

Team 1
After team sizes are decided by the Operations Coordinator and division director, players 18 or 19 on Novice Travel, the two Head Coaches get a list of that total number i.e. 36 or 38 plus the next 7 ranked players. The top 16 players will be a lock with 8 players being drafted to each of the two teams. The Novice coaches will then pick their final skaters to round out each roster from the remaining skaters. The Novice Director along with the VP Development and/or VP Programs will oversee that the team selections for the Novice Travel create fair and equal teams.

In Atom, the top 16 players will be a lock with 8 players being drafted to each of the two teams. The Atom coaches will then pick their final skaters to round out each roster from the remaining skaters. The Atom
Director along with the VP Development and/or VP Programs will oversee that the team selections for the Atom Tier 1 teams to create fair and equal teams.

**Team 2**
Any player not chosen for Novice Travel team 1A or 1B or Atom 4 will be placed in House Rankings and placed in either Novice A or B House. For Atom the list is given to the coach for the next group of skaters (this includes his top 8 locked skaters and top ranked locked goalie). Coach then choses his final players out of these with the locks being those not taken on team 1.

**Team 3**
For Atom list is given to the coach for the next group of skaters (this includes his top 8 locked skaters and top ranked locked goalie). Coach then choses his final players out of these with the locks being those not taken on team 2.

Continue until all teams in the division are selected.

**If a team is mandated to take 1 goalie only, then in this instance the coach will get a list of the next 2 goalies and must pick 1. No locks will apply in this situation.**

With this selection Procedure it relies heavily on the integrity of the Evaluators overall rankings, however it allows the Coaches some flexibility and additional accountability during selections. The coach can make choices (within the eligible rankings) based on previous performance, player attitude, and other intangibles to build his team. Requests for playing with another player cannot be accommodated for players on CAHL teams.

*Players trying out for an OOCAA team, but have yet to be selected must attend OMHA evaluations if your ice times do not conflict. If they don’t evaluate with the OMHA they will not be guaranteed a position. They will be put in a selection pool in their respective divisions.*

With this selection Procedure it relies heavily on the integrity of the Independent group’s overall rankings, however it allows the Coaches some flexibility and additional accountability during selections. The coach can make choices (within the eligible rankings) based on previous performance, player attitude, and other intangibles to build his team. Requests for playing with another player cannot be accommodated for players on CAHL, RMFHL, or RHL teams.

*Players trying out for an OOCAA team but have yet to be selected must attend OMHA Rankings if your ice time does not conflict. If they don’t evaluate with the OMHA they will not be guaranteed a position. They will be put in a selection pool in their respective divisions.*

**House League Teams**
OMHA players must choose Travel or House when registering. By choosing House you will not be made to travel and will only be considered for the house league teams, you will not have a later option of moving to
Travel tryouts. By Travel it only means you would like to try and play there. **Players remaining after travel team rosters are selected will go into the House league pool.**

OMHA players on house league teams shall be ranked in accordance with these OMHA guidelines and procedures and shall be placed on teams in an effort to make each house league team in an age category of equal calibre. Members must understand that teams may not be equal all year long. Many factors play into this such as coaching, player improvement, goalie identification, etc.

Requests for House League teams are HIGHLY discouraged. Exceptions may be granted in the House leagues, upon approval of the Executive Committee, however they cannot be guaranteed.

**Team Selection Notification**

Players will be notified which team they have been selected for, and when the next ice time will be. It will be either a letter format or verbal from the Head Coach Depending on division.

Notification of all players in a division will be done on a date to be determined by the OMHA VP Programs, the Division Director and the Coaches. For PeeWee, Bantam, and Midget, this date will be no earlier than the final date AA team rosters are announced.

**Players entering program after the Rankings Process is Complete**

The OMHA Executive Committee has determined the following procedure will be implemented for players entering OMHA’s hockey program after the Ranking process is complete:

- Players new to the community who enter after the ranking process is complete, will be placed on a team in the middle of the age category to observe their skill level during several ice times and then will be moved to an appropriate team, assuming spots are available. The placement will take into consideration what level the player played at in the previous year.
- If a Player is injured before or ill during the ranking process, the player’s placement will be determined by a committee consisting of the Division Director and the OMHA Executive board and consult the team’s coach as well.
- A player who has not been ranked due to school, sickness, vacation, injury or otherwise but can attend a selection skate may be added as an extra, not taking another players spot. In this case the player never becomes an automatic and may skate until a team does select them.
- If a player enters or returns after team selections have been finalized, the players placement will be at the sole discretion of the Division Director and OMHA Executive Board.
- Any player entering the program after the ranking process is complete does not qualify for any locked position.

Any questions or concerns regarding the Ranking Procedure should be directed to the VP Programs, OMHA.
Appendix I: Evaluation Criteria

The key points which are looked at when watching players are as follows:

1. One of the most important factor an evaluator looks at is Skating. Simply for the reason that you have to be able to skate to play the game and compete. Looking at skating involves a few different aspects, and they are as follows:
   - Acceleration, speed, mobility, agility, balance, stride, crossovers, acceleration of turns, quick feet, pivots, controlled skating, chance of pace.

2. Other key points that factor in the decision are listed below. These key points are not in any specific order.
   - Passing - Passing, receiving, passing choices, on backhand, unselfish with puck, presents a good target, receives and retains with control, tough passing.
   - Puck Control - Heads up, smooth and quiet, good hands, protection, in small spaces, in traffic.
   - Shooting - Power, accuracy, quick release, can shoot in motion, goal scorer, rebound control, variety of shots.
   - Positional Play - Ability to see the play developing both offensively and defensively and moves to support. Judgment, anticipation, understands systems, disciplined.
   - Checking Concept - Angling, good body position with balance and control, defensive side position, aggressive checker, strength, taking checks.

Appendix II: Evaluation Criteria - Goalies

The key points that are looked at when watching goalies are as follows:

1. Probably the most important factor an evaluator looks at is Skating. Not in the sense of a player, but more for movements around, in and out of the net. Looking at skating involves a few different aspects, and they are as follows:
   - Angles
   - Lateral Movement (can he/she get across the net fast enough and in position)
   - Good balance (strong on skates)

2. Other key points that factor in the decision are listed below. These key points are not in any specific order.
   - Positioning
     - Can he/she read the play, and react accordingly.
     - Can he/she decide when to stay on their feet, or go down to stop a shot. (Using the butterfly is effective, however there are times when you have to stay on your skates.)
- Not shying away from shots.

- Rebounds
  - Ability to stop the first shot.
  - Since the majority of goals are scored on rebounds, can they control rebounds or react to them quickly enough.

- Playing the Puck
  - Can they show they know when to play the puck and when to leave it for a player.
  - Know where to put the puck when they need to play it.
  - Know when to stop the play, and get a whistle.

- Work Ethic
  - Possessing a constant work ethic through the entire camp. Not just in games and not just when getting shots.
  - Doing extra "goalie stuff" in the corners when not getting shots.