

	<b>Title</b>	Goaltender Evaluations
	<b>Policy #</b>	Operational – 8.3
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	<b>Owned By</b>	Executive Committee

## 1.0 OVERVIEW

Airdrie Minor Hockey Association (AMHA or the Association) recognizes that the evaluation process is important to players, goaltenders, parents/guardians, evaluators and the Association. All efforts are directed to ensuring that the evaluation process allows a goaltender to demonstrate their goaltending ability and skills through a fair unbiased process.

This policy covers the evaluations process for goaltenders being evaluated within the U11 to U18 divisions at the Competitive, RHL and City levels. Goaltenders trying out for the High-Performance teams (AAA and/or AA) and Female divisions can attend the AMHA Goaltender Evaluations but selection to a High-Performance team will be done by the individual team coaching staff.

The intent of the AMHA Goaltender Evaluation Policy is to accurately place goaltenders on appropriate teams based on the goaltender's skill and ability through a fair, unbiased, professional and fun evaluation process.

## 2.0 POLICY

- 2.1 All registration and tryout/evaluation fees must be paid in full, or arrangement made to pay by payments prior to the player attending evaluations.
- 2.2 Each year the Executive Committee will decide if AMHA is going to hire an independent goaltender evaluation company to facilitate the goaltender evaluation sessions. If not, then they will find qualified volunteers to help with this process.
- 2.3 During evaluations goaltenders will be assigned a helmet sticker number and all of the AMHA goaltender evaluations shall be completed utilizing that goaltenders' number to identify them. Every effort should be made to ensure goaltenders remain anonymous to evaluators during evaluations. Goaltenders that are moved from AAA/AA to Competitive or from Competitive to RHL/City will need to ensure that their helmet stickers remain on their helmets until after the last goaltender evaluations.

- 2.4 All goaltenders will need to have either a plain black or white jersey for every game skate during the evaluation process. Jersey's that have numbers or logos on them will need to be worn inside out so that the logo and numbers are not visible.
- 2.5 Individuals that are wanting to be evaluated as a goaltender are required to supply their own goaltender equipment which meets the appropriate standards for safety, fit and condition. Goaltenders observed with improper or inadequate equipment will not be able to participate in the evaluation process until their equipment is deemed appropriate.
- 2.6 All goaltenders must participate in all levels of evaluations according to the schedules that will be emailed out prior to and during the evaluation process. The goaltender evaluation process is based on assessing goaltender skills, abilities and intelligence as they apply to the game of hockey.  
  
These steps include:
  - 2.6.1 Goaltender evaluation skill skates (maximum of 2 per goaltender)
  - 2.6.2 Competitive Evaluation Skates (maximum of 4 per goaltender)
  - 2.6.3 If released to RHL/City Evaluation Skates (maximum of 2 per goaltender)
  - 2.6.4 Parity Skates (maximum of 2 per goaltender)
- 2.7 Goaltenders trying out for AAA and/or AA are strongly encouraged to participate in the skill skates. Goaltenders released from AAA and/or AA tryouts to Competitive initial placement will be based on their skill skates data/ranking. If the goaltender did not complete the skills evaluations then, for the first scrimmage skate, they will be placed in a group based on where they played last year.
- 2.8 Goaltenders dropping from Competitive to RHL/City Evaluations will be placed based on their initial goaltender evaluation rankings and if they did not complete the skill skate then they will be placed in the group, for the first scrimmage skate, equal to where they played last year.
- 2.9 If the Executive Committee agrees, AMHA may have an independent goaltender evaluation company evaluate the goaltenders during all skill and scrimmage evaluation skates. An independent evaluation company may or may not be involved in the assessment and movement of goaltenders during the parity skates.
- 2.10 Goaltender rankings, as determined by the evaluation, will determine the level, tier and/or team a goaltender is assigned to at the conclusion of the goaltender evaluation process. As well, the goaltender skill skates rankings, as determined by the evaluation, will determine the level and placement of goaltenders for the first scrimmage skate. In most cases, the goaltender rankings will be uploaded to the designated Evaluation Software Program, utilized for player evaluations, between scrimmage skates for scheduling and email notifications and the creation of final teams.
- 2.11 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 Operational Policy – 8.1.2 Evaluation Grievance Policy)

### 3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

#### 3.1 Skill Skates

- 3.1.1 All Goaltenders must attend skill skates during the assigned timeslots.
- 3.1.2 All Goaltenders will perform the same drills, measured in the same manner, throughout the stream.
- 3.1.3 Skills tested may include: skating, positioning, movement, save selection and game scenario drills.
- 3.1.4 Drills will not be provided to the goaltenders prior to the skill session in which they are being utilized. This is done to ensure goaltenders are not 'training' specific drills leading up to the goaltender evaluation process. However, the drills will not be complex, overly demanding and/or overly confusing. The drills will usually consist of one or two movements followed by a save selection.
- 3.1.5 Drills will be stream specific and based on the expected proficiency of each age group.
- 3.1.6 Skill skate evaluation will initially rank all goaltenders based on their proficiency.

#### 3.2 Competitive Scrimmage Skates for U11, U13, U15 and U18

- 3.2.1 Each Competitive Stream will usually have several tiers based on the skill and ability of the teams, with tier one teams being more skilled than tier two teams, etc.
- 3.2.2 There will be a maximum of four scrimmage skates to determine final goaltender ranking and placement to a level, tier or team.
- 3.2.3 Goaltenders will have a maximum of one scrimmage skate per day for which evaluation occurs. Depending upon the number of goaltenders, a goaltender may be asked to fill a vacant slot during another player Evaluation skate. They would not be evaluated during this play.
- 3.2.4 Goaltender rankings from the skill skate(s) will be utilized to determine what level of scrimmage skate a goaltender will participate in for their first scrimmage skate. The highest ranked goaltenders will play with the highest ranked players, etc.
- 3.2.5 Goaltenders of similar ranking will participate together in scrimmage skates.
- 3.2.6 The number and composition of groups will be based on the number of goaltenders who participated in the skill skate sessions, additionally, the number of players involved in the corresponding player evaluation will determine the number and composition of the goaltender groups.
- 3.2.7 Groups will include no more than 5 goaltenders.  
For Example: If there are 14 goaltenders in the skills skates then 3 groups might be organized in the following manner based on their skill skate rankings:

Group A: Top 5 Goaltenders

Group B: Goaltenders ranked 6 to 9

Group C: Goaltenders ranked 10 to 14

- 3.2.8 The scrimmages will consist of:
- 5 on 5
  - short warm up
  - 60-minute run time games
  - live puck
  - full ice
- 3.2.9 The goaltenders will be rotated into the play from the penalty box by the Goaltender Development Committee members.
- 3.2.10 Goaltender rotation templates will be utilized to accommodate the number of goaltenders per group and the specific amount of scrimmage time to ensure that all goaltenders receive equal playing time at both ends of the rink and against all players.
- 3.2.11 At the conclusion of each session of scrimmage skates the goaltender evaluators will make recommendations concerning the movement of goaltenders from one group to another for the upcoming scrimmage session.

In all instances, the movement of a goaltender from one group to another is not indicative of that goaltender's ranking during the scrimmage skates. The movement of goaltenders is only a mechanism which the evaluators can utilize to reach their final rankings at the completion of the entire evaluation process.

The evaluators will be strongly encouraged to utilize goaltender movement from one group to another to provide opportunities to the goaltenders to show their abilities in more challenging scrimmages.

### 3.3 RHL/City Scrimmage Skates for U11, U13, U15 & U18

- 3.3.1 Two or three divisions exist within each RHL/City stream. These divisions are based on skill and ability and are usually designated by color. For instance, in the 2019-2020 RHL/City PeeWee stream there were three divisions, blue, purple and red, with blue being the most skilled, purple the next skilled and red the lowest skilled.
- 3.3.2 In addition to the skill skates, the RHL/City stream will have a maximum of four scrimmage skates to determine final placement of goaltenders to teams.
- 3.3.3 The scrimmage skates will consist of two evaluation scrimmage skates. The two evaluation scrimmage skates will be followed by a draft to create teams. Following the draft, the teams will participate in two parity scrimmage skates. The two parity scrimmages are utilized to observe the created teams and make any necessary player/goaltender rankings, as determined by the independent evaluation company. They will determine the movements to obtain parity (equal skill and ability) and fairness of competition amongst the teams.
- 3.3.4 Each goaltender will participate in a maximum of four scrimmage skates.

- 3.3.5 Goaltenders will have a maximum of one scrimmage skate per day.
- 3.3.6 It is the AMHA's intention that every AMHA team has at least one goaltender listed on their roster. As with players, some 'blue' skilled goaltenders may be required to play on a 'red' skilled team as a result of the goaltender's ranking and the described need.
- 3.3.7 Goaltender rankings from evaluation scrimmage skates 1 and 2 will be utilized to determine what level of scrimmage skate a goaltender will participate in for their first evaluation scrimmage skate. The highest ranked goaltenders will play with the highest ranked players, etc.
- 3.3.8 Groups of similarly ranked goaltenders will participate together in the evaluation scrimmage skates. The number of groups will be based on the number of goaltenders who participated in the skill skate sessions. Additionally, the number of players involved in the corresponding player evaluation will determine the number and composition of the goaltender groups.
- 3.3.9 Groups will include no more than five goaltenders.  
For example: If there are fourteen goaltenders in the skill skates then three groups might be organized in the following manner;  
Group A = Top 5 Goaltenders  
Group B = Goaltenders ranked 6 to 9  
Group C = Goaltenders ranked 10 to 14
- 3.3.10 All RHL/City scrimmage skates (two evaluation and two parity scrimmage skates) will consist of:
- 5 on 5
  - short warm up
  - 60-minute run time games
  - live puck
  - full ice
- 3.3.11 For the two evaluation scrimmage skates, the goaltenders will be rotated into the play from the penalty box by the Goaltender Development Committee members.
- 3.3.12 Goaltender rotation templates will be utilized to accommodate the number of goaltenders per group and the specific amount of time to ensure that all goaltenders receive equal playing time at both ends of the rink and against all players.
- 3.3.13 At the conclusion of each session of scrimmage skates the goaltender evaluators will make recommendations concerning the movement of goaltenders from one group to another for the upcoming scrimmage session.

In all instances, the movement of a goaltender from one group to another is not indicative of that goaltender's ranking during the scrimmage skates. The movement of goaltenders is only a mechanism which the evaluators can utilize to reach their final rankings at the completion of the entire evaluation process.

- 3.3.14 Team Draft:  
Prior to the parity scrimmages, a draft is held where goaltenders will be placed on teams within each division. The draft is intended to create teams that have parity in skill and ability across the division.

Goaltenders will be placed on teams during the draft based on their rankings through the evaluation process thus far.

- 3.3.15 The parity scrimmage skates may consist of:
  - 5 on 5
  - short warm up
  - 60-minute run time
  - live puck
  - full ice
- 3.3.16 During the parity scrimmage skates, goaltenders will skate with the team they were drafted to.
- 3.3.17 Goaltenders will rotate into the game from their team bench.
- 3.3.18 Goaltenders will share the playing time with their goaltending partner.
- 3.3.19 In the event a goaltender is moved to another team during the parity scrimmage skates, that goaltender will play with his or her new team for the remainder of the parity scrimmage skates, sharing playing time as described above.

#### 4.0 CONCLUSION

In all instances, the movement of a goaltender from one group to another is not indicative of that goaltenders ranking during the scrimmage skates. The movement of goaltenders is only a mechanism which the evaluators can utilize to reach their final rankings at the completion of the entire evaluation process.

The evaluators will be strongly encouraged to utilize goaltender movement from one group to another to provide opportunities to the goaltenders to show their abilities in more challenging scrimmages.

To allow for the proper evaluation of all goaltenders, higher skilled goaltenders may be asked to sit out scrimmage skates 3 and/or 4. The sitting goaltender(s) are not being penalized and in most cases, their placement to a level, tier or team is already clearly determined.

#### 5.0 GRIEVANCES

For any grievances related to the Goaltender Evaluation Process, please refer to the AMHA Evaluation Grievance Policy #8.1.2.