

	Title	Team Creation Policy
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	Owned By	Executive Committee

1.0 OVERVIEW

This policy will help give direction to the AMHA Division Coordinators to create tiered teams as required in our CAHL/Competitive leagues and to create parity teams for our RHL/City leagues. The objective is to place all players on the team for which they are best suited and best for their development, in a manner which is standardized, fair and transparent using our evaluation policy and processes.

2.0 PRE-EVALUATIONS

Based on the number of registrations in each division at the start of the season the Executive Committee along with the AMHA staff will determine how many teams will be viable in each division and stream for the upcoming season.

At the end of this document, find a table listing the number of teams/players/goalies for the past season to use as a guide in making future decisions.

Once the Executive Committee has finalized the number of teams we will be offering, then we will run our players through the evaluation process.

3.0 MID-EVALUATIONS

After the completion of at least 2 gameplay skates, Head Coach prospects/alignment should become visible. Head Coaches are to be approached about the possibility of being aligned with a team and invited to observe the final evaluation skate in preparation for 'Coach Pick' team creation. Head Coaches will be required to attend Team Creation to make his/her choices.

4.0 AA LAST CUTS POLICY AND PROCESS

After the final AA roster is established and before the commencement of the CAHL tryouts, the AA Head Coach (HC) may choose to enact the “AA Last Cut Policy”. This policy would give the coach an option to place a maximum of three players, no goaltenders, onto the Tier 1 team. These 3 players must come from the final cuts from the AA team and it is expected that these players will participate in the CAHL evaluation skates.

This “AA Last Cut Policy” does not include the U16 AA Havoc team as a U16 player had to have tried out for the Havoc to be able to be affiliated to the Havoc and can come from a lower U18 Tier as long as they are a U16 age player.

- 4.1 The identified players names will be submitted to the Travel Director and why the AA HC feels these players are close to AA caliber and should be placed on the Tier 1 team.
- 4.2 Once submitted, or upon commencement of the CAHL tryouts, the AA HC cannot change the list without majority Executive Committee approval.
- 4.3 After the team is created, the list of identified players will need to complete the applicable Hockey Alberta ‘Named Player Affiliation Form’ and submit it to the AMHA office for Hockey Alberta approval prior to playing any games as per the AMHA Affiliation Policy 8.11.
- 4.4 AA HC will follow the Affiliation Policy 8.11 process for calling these and other affiliate players up for games.
- 4.5 These players along with other affiliate players may be invited to AA practices during the season.

5.0 ‘COACH PICK’ TEAM CREATION

Once the players have completed their final evaluation skates the Team Creation process starts. All the competitive stream players are ranked from top to bottom, with cutlines identified, using the applicable number of players/team set out based on number of forwards, defense and goalies required. (see below #5.0)

During each evaluation skate any skaters with “Red/outside of the standard deviation” marks in the designated Software will be dealt with as per the Operational Policy 8.1 Player Evaluations, #4.5 & #5.5. After the final skate the players will be ranked using the Overall Ranking method, which includes a weighted average* of the rankings over all sessions from the designated Software that will be decided upon at the beginning of evaluations and communicated to the Software developer for input.

*The Software allows that each skate has a different weighted percentage, with the last skate being the highest to put more weight on that skate as the player is now where they should be. By using the Overall Ranking with weighted average, it allows for “one bad skate” to not hurt the player as much.

Time Trial data is used for the initial placement for the first game skate for U11 (CAHL and RMFHL) and U13 (RHL) and under and then only as a tool to ensure that the player is in the right spot.

Coach Survey/Player Report Card from the previous season will also be used in special cases such as injuries (see 8.1.1 Injured Player Policy).

The top ranked forwards, defense and goalies will be placed on Team 1. The bubble players are organized for Coach Pick and the 'draft' occurs. The undrafted players then join the next team, with the next forwards, defense and goalies on Team 2 and the process repeats. Once the number of teams have been filled, the balance of players that had tried out for CAHL/Competitive will be released to RHL/City.

For each team within the Competitive stream where a Head Coach is identified and able to attend the final Evaluation Skate, the Head Coach will be given 3 'picks' from within the ranked players. The intended distribution of picks is 2F/1D, and alterations to this expectation will be identified prior to any game skates, dependent upon the number of registered players within each position.

For U13 CAHL team creation, the Head Coach will be given a list of the 7 confirmed Forwards, 5 confirmed Defence and 2 Goalies prior to making his/her selection of final 3 players. These players are non-negotiable as they are the top ranked players to make the designated team. The Head Coach picks come from the pool of 'bubble' players. For the remaining 2 Forwards, the pool consists of the next 4 ranked players for the Forward position. For the remaining 1 Defence, the pool consists of the next 2 ranked Defence. The Head coach may only choose amongst these pools, and must choose according to the number of players to fill their team as per section 5.0 below. The 'bubble' players not selected by the Head Coach will automatically be placed on the next team, as they are the highest ranked players remaining on the list. For U15/U18 CAHL teams, a similar process is utilized, but the list of confirmed players includes 8 Forwards, 6 Defence and 2 Goalies provided the team makeup is 10 Forwards, 7 Defense and 2 Goalies. For U11 CAHL team creation, a similar process is utilized, but the list of confirmed players includes 12 non-positional players and 2 Goalies. The U11 pool to choose from includes the next 6 'bubble' players, of which 3 are selected.

For City/RHL team creation, where a Red/Blue or Red/Purple/Blue split occurs, the Head Coach and maximum one (1) Assistant Coach are to be present for the team draft process as outlined in Operational Policy 8.1 Player Evaluation. The Division Coordinator is responsible for grouping like-ranked players according to the number of teams being created (ie. if 3 parity teams are being created, the players are grouped by rankings into sets of 6 and each Head Coach 'drafts' or chooses 2 players amongst the pool).

If there is no identifiable Head Coach within the pool of players locked to the team, the team formation will be done by Overall Ranking alone such that the Team Creation process can continue in a timely manner. Head Coach candidates must be identified prior to the 1st Game Skate if they wish to partake in the Coach Pick procedure. For City/RHL teams, if there are insufficient Head Coaches for the number of teams being created, the Division Coordinator will act as the missing Coach(es) and draft by Overall Ranking.

6.0 TEAM FORMATION POLICY

For Competitive teams and based on registration numbers the teams will be made up of:

Division	Forwards	Defense	Goalies
U18	10 or 11	7 or 6	2
U15	10 or 11	7 or 6	2
U13	9	6	2
U11	9	6	2

For RHL/City teams, based on the number of registrations and players that are released from CAHL/Competitive Evaluations, the teams will be created with the intention of parity teams within the division. If the draft process doesn't create equal teams, the subsequent Parity skates are used to identify misplaced players and adjustments made as required.

7.0 APPROVAL PROCESS

After the final skate, the Stream VP, Stream Director (optional), Division Coordinator and Evaluations Coordinator, who is knowledgeable with the designated Software, will review the teams and grant approval. If the Division Coordinator or Evaluation Coordinator are not present to grant approval, a different member of the Executive Committee will do so on his/her behalf. The Stream VP must grant approval personally, either verbally, written or via email prior to team distribution and publication.

If there are any issues, a member of the Executive Committee will be consulted prior to approval.

After the teams are approved, the Stream Director and Coach Coordinator will finalize and assign the Head Coaches to the teams, who have previously been interviewed, approved and done their Coach Selection of bubble players or draft, and distribute them their team roster. Notification of the specific team for which each player is assigned comes from the Head Coach, within 48hrs of team approval. In the event that no Head Coach is designated, notification of team assignment will come from the Division Coordinator.

8.0 TIMELINE

8.1 CAHL/Competitive Teams

After the final skate for CAHL/Competitive teams, an email will go out within 24 hours informing the players that they have successfully made a Competitive team and another email will go out to the released players telling them they are moving to the RHL/City tryout process.

Then, within 48 hours of the first email the CAHL/Competitive teams will be approved, and a communication will go out from the Head Coach. If no Head Coach has been assigned to the team, an email from AMHA letting the players know which team they are on and requesting a Head Coach to step forward will be sent out.

8.2 RHL/City Teams

After the final parity skate for the RHL/City teams, any final movements will be made and then within 48 hours a communication will go out from AMHA to the players informing them of which team they are on, including the team name and who their Head Coach is. Alternatively, the Head Coach may send a welcome communication prior to the first practice.

2023 – 2024 Season breakdown of Teams/Player/Goalies

Division & Team	# of Teams	Approximate # on the Team	Total Players	Total Goalies
U18 AAA CFR Chemicals Bisons	1	20	18	2
U18 AA	1	19	17	2
U18 AA Female	1	19	17	2
U18 CAHL (Tier 1 & 3)	2	19 & 19	34	4
U18 Female RMFHL	1	18	17	1
U18 RHL (A, B, C, D, E & F)	6	17,17,17,19,17 & 18	98	7
U17 AAA AC Avalanche	1	19	17	2
U16 AA Havoc	1	19	17	2
U16 CAHL (Tier 1)	1	19	17	2
U15 AAA Xtreme	1	19	17	2
U15 AA	1	19	17	2
U15 AA Female	1	19	17	2
U15 CAHL (Tier 1, 2, 3 & 4)	4	19	68	8
U15 Female RMFHL (Tier 1,2&3)	3	15, 16 & 15	42	4
U15 RHL (A, B, C, D, E, & F)	6 (3B,3R)	17,17,18,17,17 & 16	93	9
U13 AA	1	18	16	2
U13 AA Female	1	18	16	2
U13 CAHL (Tier 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5)	5	17,17,17,16 & 17	74	10
U13 Female RMFHL (Tier 1)	1	17	15	2
U13 RHL (A,B,C,D,E,F, & G)	8(4B,4R)	15,17,16,16,17,17,17 & 17	126	6
U11 HADP	1	17	15	2
U11 CAHL (Tier 2, 3, 4 & 5)	4	17,17,17 & 17	60	8
U11 Female RMFHL (Tier 1)	1	17	16	1
U11 RHL	7(3B,4R)	18,17,17,15,16,16 & 16	101	14
U9 City	9 (4B,5R)	17,18,18,18,18,18,16,17 & 17	157	Rotation
U9 Female	1 (1R)	18	18	Rotation
U7 City	8 (4B,4R)	18,18,18,19,16,17,17 & 17	140	Rotation
Recreation	4	17,19,20 & 20	76	Rotation
Total Teams	82	Total = 1434	1336	98

Team Names are also already determined:

U7 & U9 - City are Division, Colour, # and then a Superhero or NHL team name (i.e. U7 Blue 3 - Avengers)

U11, U13, U15 & U18 – RHL, CAHL and SCAHL all called the Airdrie Lightning plus team number

(i.e. **Airdrie U11 RHL A Lightning**)

U15 AAA – Xtreme, U16 AA - Havoc, U17 AAA - Avalanche and U18 AAA - CFR Chemicals Bisons