

	<b>Title</b>	Injured Player Policy
	<b>Policy #</b>	Operational – 8.1.1
	<b>Draft Date</b>	December 1, 2019
	<b>Approved Date</b>	August 28, 2020
	<b>Revised Date</b>	June 30, 2021
	<b>Owned By</b>	Executive Committee

## 1.0 OVERVIEW

This policy covers how to deal with injured players at the beginning of the hockey season for Evaluations, whether the player was injured during evaluations or before they started.

Note: This policy does not cover injured goalies, please refer to Policy #8.3.1 - Injured Goaltender Policy. They are dealt with similar criteria, but with substantially more input from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Goalie Evaluators.

## 2.0 Definition of “Injured”

A player shall be designated INJURED when the following conditions apply:

- 2.1 Substantial injury has been sustained, and;
- 2.2 Participation in Evaluations is not possible or would be at a level recognizably below expectation, and;
- 2.3 Medical documentation advising against participation in on-ice activity has been obtained.

Recognized injuries include, but are not limited to:

- Broken bones
- Concussions
- Hospitalizations
- Quarantine requirements due to Covid-19

Illnesses, such as a cold or stomach flu are not considered injuries unless accompanied by medical documentation.

Medical documentation of the injury is required. A letter from a physician or AHS stating the extent of the injury, duration of recovery and expected return date for sport participation should be sent to the Division Coordinator as soon as possible after the injury.

## 3.0 Duration of Injury

- 3.1 An injury obtained pre or mid-evaluations does not preclude the player from returning.
- 3.2 Once a player is placed on the injured list, they shall remain there until notification of clearance is sent to the Division Coordinator. A player designated under the policy must return to the evaluation process upon clearance of documented injury.

- 3.3 The duration of the injury and recovery shall be determined by a medical professional and submitted to the association for determination of placement. In the event that a range of dates is provided (i.e. 4 to 6-week recovery), the association will always default to the maximum recovery time.
- 3.4 An injury resulting in an expected Return to Sport date beyond November 30<sup>th</sup> will void the injured player's placement on any CAHL team. In this instance, upon clearance by a medical professional, the player may be placed on an RHL, City or Rec team, availability dependent.

#### 4.0 Assessment of Injured Player

The process of 'tagging' will be utilized within the boundaries of the designated Software. As required, the Evaluation or Division Coordinators must determine proper tagging partners for any injured player.

Tagging involves determining 4 players of the same position, of the same division and similar skill. Two players should be stronger than the injured player and two players should be weaker than the injured player. These 4 players are linked to the injured player, with the intent being that the injured player would be placed on a team in-between them.

##### Notes on tagging

- In the event that ANY Evaluation skate data is available, tagged players will come exclusively from the latest Evaluation skate data.
- In the event that NO Evaluation skate data is available, tagged players can come from the previous teams' Coaches Player Report card provided after the last season. This is viable if there are sufficient players within the age group to make satisfactory selections. If less than 5 players on a team satisfy the age and position requirements, player rankings from teams immediately above or below can be used. Tagged players can also come from Time Trial data, if available. This placement alone will never determine player team placement. Tagged players from the Time Trial data shall be used as guidelines or verification of team placement only.
- Tagging occurs immediately upon receipt of Injury notification such that all skates have the injured player "tagged" within the ranking system
- Players to whom Injured players are tagged can change from one skate session to the next.

#### 4.1 Player Completes 1 or more Evaluation Skates Prior to the Injury

A player who has completed any Evaluation Skates within the evaluation process shall be ranked and placed on a team according to the tagged player data. Just like all other skaters, at the completion of all Evaluation skates, injured players will achieve an Overall Rank Value, placing them within the Overall Ranking list with all skaters. Placement on teams is based on the Overall Ranking list as long as the player will have a Return to Play date prior to November 30<sup>th</sup> as stated in 3.4.

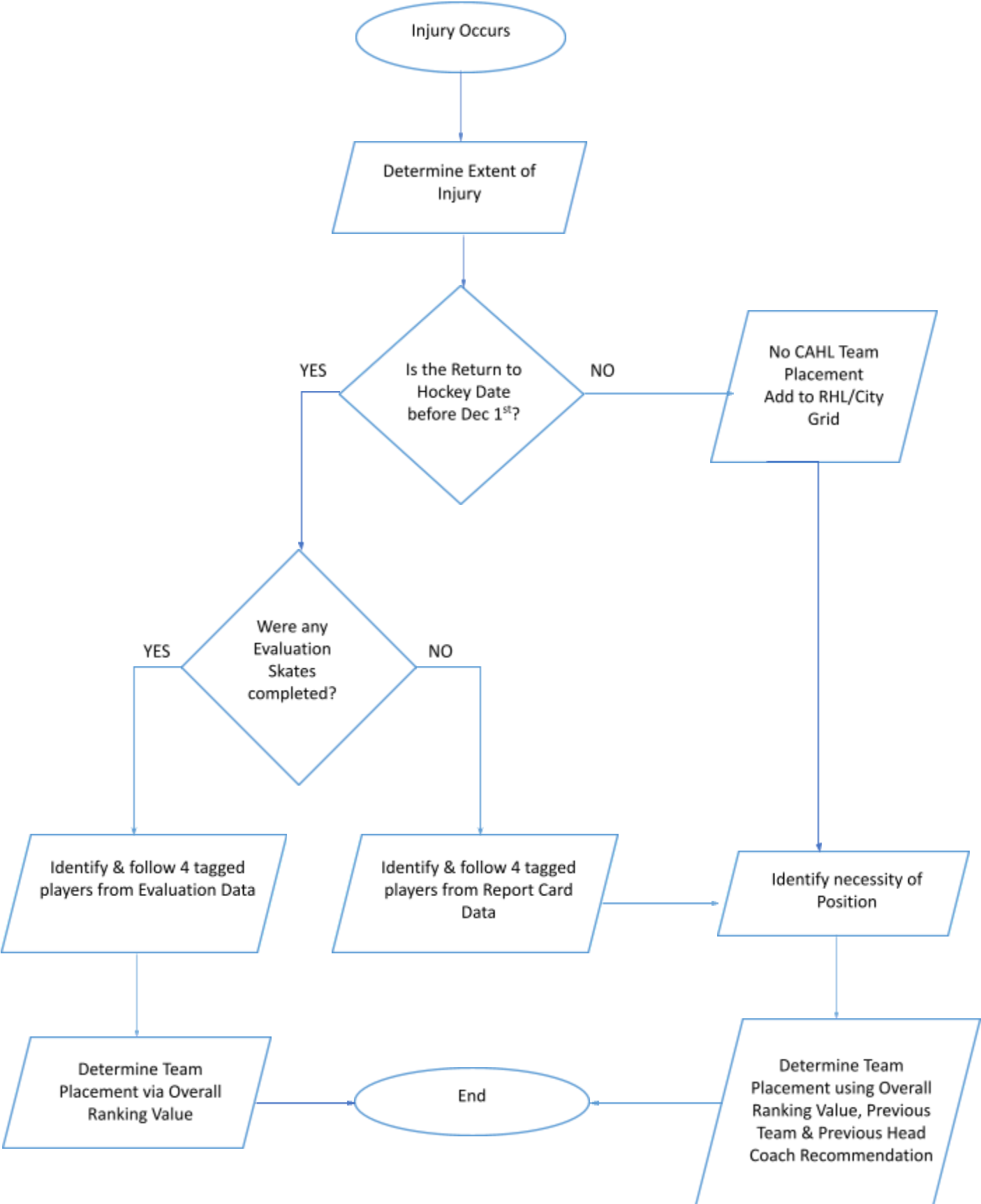
#### 4.2 Player Injured Prior to Start of Evaluation

Injured players are assessed on a case-by-case basis. A player injured prior to the start of Evaluations shall have the following criteria considered prior to team placement

- Tagged players from previous teams Player Report Card
- Tagged players from Time Trial data
- Previous team placement
- Previous Head Coach recommendation

While tagged players may yield an Overall Rank Value within the Overall Ranking list, this value may be adjusted to accommodate other criteria listed above. Team placement is at the discretion

of the Executive Committee as long as the player will have a Return to Play date prior to November 30<sup>th</sup> as stated in 3.4. In this situation, placement of injured players may cause lower ranked skaters within the system to experience Overall Rank Value adjustments.



## 5.0 Realignment Policy

In the event that team placement is blatantly incorrect, and the injured player is obviously on a team too strong, it is possible to move him/her down a team and move the top player from the lower team up. This would only be done in extreme cases. Under no circumstances would an injured player be moved up after the team creation process is complete.