



TEAM SELECTION PROCESS

2025-2026

www.paminorhockey.ca

Hello and welcome to another exciting Prince Albert Hockey season. As always, the hockey season begins with evaluations. Evaluations are possible because of a dedicated group of volunteers.

While this is an exciting time of year, it can also be a stressful time for both parents and players. To help make the experience less stressful and more enjoyable, we have developed some evaluation guidelines.

**SKATE TIMES –Dates, times and arenas will be posted on the internet. You will not be called so please check the website for your next skate time.
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General Comments for Parents Regarding Evaluation Process

1. The evaluation process is an honest effort in conjunction with volunteers/potential coaches who commit many personal hours to ensuring a fair and consistent process for all players. No process is perfect, we are constantly striving to improve the process for the ultimate enjoyment of the game for all players at all skill levels.
2. Your positive involvement in this process is a fundamental part to ensuring a successful and enjoyable hockey season for all participants.
3. There will be a table available for all players to register for each skate and to receive their sweaters for the evaluation.
4. Bring hockey socks, water bottles or anything you would need for a game for each evaluation.
5. Please have your child dressed and ready to go on the ice 15 minutes prior to their evaluation time.
6. Stay positive. Support your child throughout the process. Don't sweat the small stuff – kids fall and miss passes. It's all part of hockey. Over the course of the evaluation process, they will make a lot of good plays too!
7. U7, U9, and U11 will not be assigned positions for evaluations. For U13, U15, and U18 divisions, players will be divided out by forward and defense positions.
8. A separate goalie session will be held when numbers warrant.
9. PAH utilizes the services of member volunteers to complete its evaluation process.
10. The evaluators will not evaluate their own children.
11. The evaluators will follow the directions and guidelines as set out by the PAH Board.
12. Potential head and assistant coaches are strongly encouraged to be a part of the evaluations process.
13. During any evaluation process there will be a certain number of players / parents that feel the specific group placement of the player is not correct or may have queries as to their player's placement so far. If this is the case, please remember that the skating groups are not indicative of team selection and the process should be allowed to continue its course to team selection.
However, queries should be directed to the division leader as this is the person most familiar with your child's situation, and most likely able to accurately address your thoughts.
14. The evaluators are looking for game skills such as speed, transition at speed, puck control at speed, puck pursuit, physical play (U15 & U18), defensive and offensive abilities, fore checking, and back checking abilities.

15. Players will move up or down various skating groupings based upon evaluator marks but only after the grading has been tabulated. These movements will be reflected in the assigned skate time for a player's next assigned skate.
16. The group(s) the player skated with during evaluations does not necessarily indicate what team they will be placed on.
17. Coaches' player evaluations from the previous season will be used to help set initial skate groups and to help out when questions arise at team forming.
18. In the end, it is ultimately the responsibility of the PAH Board, division leader, General Manager and President to ensure the evaluations are well organized, fair, accurate, enjoyable, and run with integrity so that the players can participate competitively with and against players of similar skill and have an enjoyable hockey season. With that being said, PAH reserves the right and has the ability to move players up or down at any time. The evaluation process provides PAH with guidance for the ranking only and PAH is not bound by them.
19. Throughout this process, it is typical for the division leader to keep the General Manager and President apprised of the evaluation process and about potential concerns or issues that arise. In extreme cases, the General Manager and/or President may become involved to facilitate resolution as he/she is ultimately responsible to the membership to ensure all the volunteers have completed their duties responsibly.
20. Requests to match a player with a specific coach or another player will not be accommodated and will only be considered under extenuating circumstances by the General Manager and or President.
21. The number of players per team will vary by age category and team by team within an age category. Teams can be made up of between 10 and 19 players.
22. Parents/guardians shall not sit near or engage in any discussion with the evaluators during the evaluation sessions.
23. No coach will be allowed to pick any assistants, managers or trainers until their team is awarded to them.

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INJURED / ABSENT PLAYERS

1. It is in your child's best interest to attend all the evaluation skates as there are many evaluators and some do not know all the kids and their skill levels so it is imperative that for minor hockey to achieve a fair and competitive league all kids should attend all evaluation skates.
2. All injuries or absences **must** be reported to the division leader in charge of your child(s) division or emailed to the Hockey Office pahockey1@gmail.com.
3. A player injured for the entire evaluation session will come under review by the General Manager and the team forming group.
4. A player returning from injury part way through the evaluation process will come under review of the division leader and General Manager for placement.
5. In the event that a player misses some or all of the evaluation skates, Coach Evaluation forms from the previous season may be used to determine proper placement of the player.

CONFLICTS

1. All conflicts will be directed to the division leader of each division.
2. Evaluations will be documented and remain confidential. Individual evaluation scores and rankings will not be released, as the purpose of the evaluation is to select players for the formation of teams, not to rank players for the general membership. Under no circumstances will evaluation results be released to parents/guardians or players. The evaluation sheets and the ranking criteria will only be made available to the General Manager and president of PAH for review/discussion in the process of selecting players to form teams. These individuals will not release evaluation data.

Note: It is usually the final 2 or 3 cuts which cause the most difficulties for the evaluators, coaches, players and parents. One person may consider the player good enough for the particular team whereas someone may disagree. In the long run both may be right, but a decision needs to be made and through this process supported.

Evaluations/Team Selection Process

1. Evaluations will consist of three (3) ice sessions.
2. The sessions will consist of approximately 15 skaters and 2 goalies per group.
3. There will be separate goalie sessions if required.
4. The evaluation sessions will consist of a combination of skating, passing, shooting drills, followed by a scrimmage for the remainder of the session. Evaluators will submit their reports after each session to the division leader.
5. The General Manager in consultation with PAH office will regroup before each skate based on evaluation numbers.
6. After each skate the kids will be regrouped for their next skate and will need to check the website for their next skate times. All dates for each skate will be posted at the first skate but times will need to be checked before each skate.
7. This is the end of all the evaluations.
8. Players will be ranked from 1 to amount registered based on all evaluations (forward and defence for U13 to U18)
9. At this time the PAH Board will decide how many teams will be in the divisions.
10. The General Manager in consultation with the PAH Board of Directors shall choose the head coaches for all house league teams.

11. The General Manager will contact and inform the head coaches to set up a meeting for team forming.
12. All ranked players will be placed into boxes equal to the number of teams in that tier (example 4 teams = 4 to a box, 5 teams = 5 to a box)
13. Division leaders along with the head coaches will place players on teams that are to be fair and created equal with the utmost priority of parity. The process will include all relevant criteria including, skill level, size, age, and commitment level of player and family.
14. This is the end of the selection of teams.
15. Completed teams are recorded then the coaches' names are now put into a hat and drawn out by the order they were compiled (4 teams=A/B/C/D first coach picked will receive team A and so on.) At this point the Coaches son/daughter will then be paired with that team. This will be accommodated by switching that player with a player from the same evaluation box on another team.
16. If a family has more than one child in a division and if they are evaluated in the same tier, then a trade will be accommodated for family reasons. Players must be evaluated into the same tier, or no trades will be accommodated. Requests to make player trades will be considered on a case-by-case basis, when dealing with traditional or blended families.
** NOTE ** whenever a trade is made, the player to be moved will only be switched with a player from the same evaluation box.
17. The teams are now final.
18. Affiliated Players – since not all players are willing to be affiliated, each coach will receive Affiliate Player Form. They are required to talk to the kids and the parents and will submit the form when filled out to the hockey office. The kids willing to be affiliated are then divided out by their rankings.

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