

## **SMHA Evaluation Policy**

**Revised:** April 2026

---

### **Evaluator Selection**

- Evaluators are selected and approved by the SMHA Executive Board.
- Each evaluation skate will include 3–4 evaluators, with at least one evaluator knowledgeable in goaltending when required.

### **Evaluator qualifications include:**

- Hockey background (player or coach)
  - Independent of the division being evaluated (non-stakeholder)
  - Experience in other hockey programs
  - Willingness to evaluate divisions where they do not have a child registered
- 

### **Coach Selection**

- Only coach applications submitted before the deadline will be considered for the upcoming season unless additional coaches are required.
  - The Head Coach will be selected after team evaluation selections are completed.
- 

### **Evaluation Process**

#### **General Requirements**

- Players must be registered with fees paid fully (or an appropriate installment schedule arranged) prior to participation in evaluation skates.
  - Respect in Sport Parent/The Shift Forward must be completed before participation.
  - A SMHA executive board member will be present at all evaluation skates.
- 

### **U11**

- All players are guaranteed three evaluation skates (per Hockey Canada guidelines).
- Players may be evaluated as skaters and/or goaltenders.

- Players wishing to roster as a hybrid goalie (ie. player and goaltender) must declare this intent before evaluations begin and be evaluated in both roles.
- 

### **U13, U15, U18**

- All players are guaranteed one evaluation skate.
  - Players will be evaluated at the position selected at registration (forward, defence, or goaltender).
- 

### **Player Selection Process**

- Evaluators may recommend movement (top or bottom players) after each skate.
  - Evaluators will select 100% of the roster.
  - Family members wishing to be rostered on the same team must contact their director prior to evaluation skates. If players are evaluated onto different teams, they will be rostered onto the lower tiered team.
- 

### **Injured or Absent Players**

- Injuries or illnesses impacting evaluations will be reviewed by the Evaluation Committee.
  - Please refer to the Injured Player Policy.
- 

### **Final Rosters**

- No player movement will occur after teams are announced.
  - Adjustments may only occur in cases of:
    - Administrative or technical errors
    - Changes in player registration numbers
- 

### **Conduct & Communication**

- SMHA has zero tolerance for abuse, harassment, or inappropriate questioning of board members, evaluators, or coaches.
- Violations may result in written warnings and/or removal from SMHA.

**Communication Guidelines:**

- Parents, players, and coaches must not contact evaluators, board members, or coaches directly regarding evaluations.
  - All concerns must be submitted by email to: [evaluations@stettlerminorhockey.com](mailto:evaluations@stettlerminorhockey.com)
  - Concerns will be reviewed after October 1 by the President, VP Operations, and VP Development.
  - Emails sent outside this process will not be acknowledged.
- 

**Player Movement & Releases**

- Players requesting a release after evaluations will not receive a refund.
- Players must accept a permanent release to the new association they plan to play for.
- In future, players may return to play at SMHA at the Board's discretion.