



ONTARIO WOMEN'S HOCKEY ASSOCIATION SELECTION POLICY

The purpose of this document is to outline the process to be used to select the players and team staff who will represent the Ontario Women's Hockey Association at the U16 Ontario Summer Games held every 2 years, and the U18 National Championship held 3 out of 4 seasons, with the 4th season being the Canada Winter Games.

The selection process for both programs has a number of similarities, and differences.

OBJECTIVE

The goal is to select the top athletes within the OWHA for both the U16 Ontario Summer Games, the U18 National Championship and the U18 Canada Winter Games.

U16 Program - Ontario Summer Games

The OWHA U16 High Performance Program is designed to introduce female hockey players to the High Performance setting. This program offers them an opportunity to participate in an OWHA High Performance Preliminary Identification/Tryout Camp, and possibly be selected to participate in the Ontario Summer Games that takes place every 2 seasons. In season where there is not a Summer Games, OWHA will host a Development Session.

The OWHA U16 High Performance Preliminary Identification/Tryout Camps will offer a highly competitive tryout process through game competition.

This program is through a player application process. OWHA U16 HP Preliminary Identification/Tryout Camps are open to all athletes registered within the OWHA who qualify under the age restrictions, meet the additional qualifications, and feel they have the skills to compete at this level.

U18 Program - National U18 Championship / Canada Winter Games

The OWHA selects two teams to represent Ontario at the Women's U18 National Championships 3 out of 4 seasons and 1 team to represent Ontario in Canada Winter Games years.

The OWHA selects and invites players to participate in OWHA U18 HP Summer Development/Tryout Camp. These camps are by invitation only are only for OWHA registered players who are in good standing and meet selection criteria. Only players selected to attend this camp will be notified by the OWHA.

Identification / Selection factors for both U16 and U18 may include but are not limited to:

- Previous and current performance
- Positional requirements (primary and backup)
- Present and projected development and/or improvement
- Leadership/contribution to team chemistry
- Demonstrate an ability and willingness to work effectively and cooperate within the team environment.
- Demonstrate an ability to contribute to overall team cohesiveness and to communicate effectively with coaching staff and other players both on and off the field of play.
- Demonstrate a positive attitude including coachability, desire to improve personal skills, and desire to contribute to team objectives.
- Demonstrate an ability and willingness to implement the coaching staff's game plan.
- Demonstrate self-motivation, confidence, determination.
- Demonstrate commitment to fitness, training and preparation.
- Demonstrate commitment to a lifestyle conducive to support the training and preparation required.

Performance Readiness

“Performance ready” is defined as the ability of the athlete to achieve equal or superior performance(s) onsite at the scheduled event or training session as compared to the performance(s) the athlete achieved in being selected.

The final decision on performance readiness will be made by the OWHA, using all available information at their disposal including performance results and progress, training results and progress, fitness results and progress and other competitive readiness indicators, submitted medical documentation and any other relevant performance related information.

Athlete assessment procedures involve weighing the needs of the team and the perceived relative strengths and weaknesses of each athlete in order to select the best team possible.

The OWHA shall assign weightings to the importance of factors considered in their decision making process as they deem appropriate to the goal of fielding the best possible team.

It is understood that in making selections to create the best team, it is possible that the best individually skilled athletes may not be selected.

Players will also be evaluated on the following:

- Compliance with OWHA Code of Conduct and Values, good person first attitude
- Skating
- Individual Puck Skills
- Team Puck Skills
- Offensive Team Play
- Defensive Individual Skills
- Defensive Team Play
- Hockey Sense, Over-all knowledge of the game
- Compete level
- Fair Play
- On Ice, Off Ice Intangibles

Goaltenders will be evaluated on the above and the following:

- Skating
- Agility and Speed
- Traffic Play, Rebound Control, Puck Play
- Hockey Sense
- Strength and Fitness
- Mental Toughness
- Battle Mentality
- Post play
- Stops the Puck

The OWHA will select staff that meet the criteria that will be posted on an annual basis.

On an annual basis the OWHA will post on its website specific details of the U16 and U18 programs.