

TRAC AA Player Evaluation Process / Coach Picks

Section 1: Player Evaluation Process

Objective

- a. To provide a fair and impartial assessment of each player's total hockey skills during both skill sessions and scrimmage sessions.
- b. To ensure that players have a reasonable opportunity of being selected to a team that is appropriate for their skill and development level for the current season.
- c. To form teams to maintain competitive play where the players can develop their skills and have fun playing hockey.
- d. To provide coaches with the opportunity and flexibility to build a team based in part on their own coaching philosophy and knowledge of the players skills, abilities and attitude.

Evaluation Team

Director

1. Will use a minimum of three evaluators. This will include a minimum of two forward/defense evaluators and a minimum of one goalie evaluator. The evaluators cannot be a divisional coach or any players' family member.
2. Is responsible for finding appropriate on-ice coaches to run each tryout session (assistant coaches for example).
3. Is responsible for creating practice plans which includes appropriate drills for each skill that the players are graded on for their division. They will also make sure that the drills are always kept in the same order for each group (if applicable).
4. Directors will hand out jerseys to players and advise of dressing room in the front lobby prior to the start of each session. Ensure all sweaters are collected at the end of the session.
5. Directors will ensure scrimmage teams are evenly matched so a fair evaluation can be done on all players not just a select few.
6. The drills will be gone over with the evaluators and on ice coaches prior to each ice session to ensure the evaluators and coaches knows what skill they are demonstrating.
7. Be available to field questions, comments and complaints about the process.

8. Collect evaluation forms after each evaluation session.
9. The Use of Drugs or Alcohol are prohibited for use during evaluations. All Evaluators must adhere to this rule.

On Ice Coaches/Helpers

1. For insurance purposes, it is mandatory that all the on-ice coaches/helpers have submitted a WMHA Coaching Application (it can be noted on this form that you are there only to help during evaluations). This form is available on our web-site www.whitecourtmajorhockey.com. Applicable coaching certification should apply with Coaching Applications.
2. All Coaches require Respect in Sport "Coach". Please ensure this is completed prior to the evaluations, and is submitted on the coaching application form.
3. All on ice coaches/helpers are required to wear a CSA approved helmet. Minimum of 3 Coaches per session are required.
4. Ensure a proper warm up at the beginning of each ice session.
5. Demonstrate and ensure that the players understand each drill.
6. Make sure that drills are always kept in the same order for each group (if applicable). Also maintain Directors practice plan and attempt to stay with the time line.
7. Check that all players have the proper protective equipment.
8. Encourage the players to perform to the best of their ability.
9. Do not share any of their personal insight with players, parents or other observers during the evaluation process.

Evaluators

1. Review practice plan and drills with the Director prior to the ice sessions. This will set the expectations for the evaluators.
2. Stay separated from the other evaluators along with parents and other observers.
3. Fill out the provided evaluation forms and hand them in to the Director after each session and follow each levels evaluation matrix.
4. Refer any questions, comments or complaints to the Director.
5. Ensure a fair and unbiased evaluation for every player.
6. Do not share your results or comments with any player, parent or other observer.
7. Disclose any close friend or family relation to any evaluated player(s).
8. It is recommended for evaluators to obtain Respect in Sport "Parent" prior to evaluations. This is not mandatory; however, all parents and

coaches require this for WMHA. Information can be found on the WMHA website.

Section 2: Coach Mentor – Coach Development

1. Work with the Directors to create a practice plan with drills suitable for the age group and evaluated skills.
2. Help the Executive and Directors to select head coaches prior to the conclusion of the try out sessions.

Head Coach

1. Shall assist in the development of the on-ice drills.
2. Shall not select the on-ice helpers/coaches.
3. Complete evaluations of skaters so as to aid in the evaluation rating of skater.

Under 13 (U13) AA

Free Skates	Technical Skill Sessions	% Weight	Scrimmage or Exhibition Game	% Weight
1-2	1-2	30-40	4-5	60-70

Evaluated Skills: Skating, puck handling, shot, hockey sense, work ethic, and defensive play. Teams are tiered at this level. Players will be evaluated by position (forward or defense). Players that have chosen to try out for the AA team will be involved in the first level of evaluations. Once the team is selected those players who were not chosen for the AA team will be sent back to their respective Associations. Please note that because some of our players are trying out elsewhere the teams will not be decided until players have come back and have had a minimum of two ice sessions. See Team Selections (section 4) for information how teams are formed.

Under 15 (U15) AA

Free Skates	Technical & Tactical Skill Sessions	% Weight	Scrimmage or Exhibition Game	% Weight
1-2	1-2	20-30	4-5	70-80

Evaluated Skills: Skating, puck handling, shot, hockey sense, work ethic, defensive play and body contact. Teams are tiered at this level. Players will be evaluated by position (forward or defense). Players that have chosen to try out for the AA team will be involved in the first level of evaluations. Once the team is selected those players who were not chosen for the AA team will be sent back to their respective Associations. Please note that because some of our players are trying out elsewhere the teams will not be decided until players have come back and have had a minimum of two ice sessions. Spots need to be reserved for players making it to late cuts at higher levels elsewhere (AAA). See Team Selections (section 4) for information how teams are formed.

Under 18 (U18) AA

Free Skates	Technical & Tactical Skill Sessions	% Weight	Scrimmage or Exhibition Game	% Weight
1-2	1-2	30-40	4-5	60-70

Evaluated Skills: Skating, puck handling, shot, hockey sense, work ethic, defensive play and body contact. Teams are tiered at this level. Players will be evaluated by position (forward or defense). Players that have chosen to try out for the AA team will be involved in the first level of evaluations. Once the team is selected those players who were not chosen for the AA team will be sent back to their respective Associations. Please note that because some of our players are trying out elsewhere the teams will not be decided until players have come back and have had a minimum of two ice sessions. Spots need to be reserved for players making it to late cuts at higher levels elsewhere (AAA). See Team Selections (section 4) for information how teams are formed.

Goalies:

Goalies will be evaluated along with the other players. They will have separate drills that are appropriate for their division. When evaluating goalies Directors shall attempt to use evaluators with goaltending knowledge. A specific goaltender skill session will be conducted during tryout period. Shooters required for this session will be picked in advance. Director will discuss the drills and expectations of the session.

Evaluated skills: Skating/balance, positional play, puck control, quickness/reaction, focus/concentration and second effort

Section 3: Evaluation Skills (Break-down)

Forwards and Defense

All Levels

1. Skating: Forward and backwards, cross-overs, two-foot turns, stopping both directions, balance, speed, quick acceleration
2. Puck Handling: Ability to handle puck with head-up, difficult to remove puck, accurate passing, looking for pass
3. Shot: Accuracy, quick release and speed of shot, head up when shooting

U13 and Up

1. Hockey Sense: Ability to read the play (anticipation), playing the position, right play at the right time
2. Work Ethic: The effort displayed in both drills and scrimmages, attention to coach's instruction and feedback
3. Defensive Play: Back checking, good position in defensive zone, even and odd man defensive positioning

U15 and Up

1. **Body Contact:** Proper body position in both giving and receiving a check, angle checking, legal and safe, one on one battles

Goaltenders

All Levels

1. Skating / Balance: Stance, movement forward and backward (C cuts), lateral movement both shuffle and t-glide, acceleration to free puck
2. Positional Play: Good angles, right depth for play, well set in time for the shot, square to shooter, ability to anticipate next play, good post save response
3. Puck Control: Control of rebounds, ability to freeze puck when required, handle puck well outside of net, stops rims, sets put for defense, strong accurate passes to team mates
4. Quickness / Reactions: Quickness of hands and feet, ability to react quickly to broken play
5. Focus / Concentration: Emotion control, maintaining composure, ability to focus after bad goal, able to focus on puck through a crowd, communicates well with team mates
6. Second Effort: Not willing to give up on a play (in practice and game), second effort to stop puck.

Section 4: Team Selections

U13: Team Selection

It will be the goal of the evaluation team to first choose the highest-level team and proceed down from this point. This is done by scoring each participant on the predetermined skills in the evaluation package. Since Coach is named prior to evaluations (either parent or non-parent) they will have the ability to make decisions on all picks for the team. The Director will provide the Head Coach a list of all players evaluated and the position they play so the coach can make an informed decision. Evaluators are providing information on what they witnessed during the tryout for all players on the ice. The evaluation process is used to separate the skill level between the kids to provide a guided focus on the evaluations. Evaluators and Directors can and will suggest picks for the team based on the evaluations, however the coach will be given final say on the picks for the team. The director will discuss the decision with the coach to ensure the best decision is made for each team. Evaluations will not be given out to parents following the tryout.

U15: Team Selection

It will be the goal of the evaluation team to first choose the highest-level team and proceed down from this point. This is done by scoring each participant on the predetermined skills in the evaluation package. Since Coach is named prior to evaluations (either parent or non-parent) they will have the ability to make

decisions on all picks for the team. The Director will provide the Head Coach a list of all players evaluated and the position they play so the coach can make an informed decision. Evaluators are providing information on what they witnessed during the tryout for all players on the ice. The evaluation process is used to separate the skill level between the kids to provide a guided focus on the evaluations. Evaluators and Directors can and will suggest picks for the team based on the evaluations, however the coach will be given final say on the picks for the team. The director will discuss the decision with the coach to ensure the best decision is made for each team. Evaluations will not be given out to parents following the tryout.

**Please note that because some of our players are trying out elsewhere, the teams will not be decided until players have come back and have had a minimum of two ice sessions. Spots need to be reserved for players making it to late cuts at higher levels elsewhere (AAA). All players planning to tryout for the AA division in TRAC AA must communicate this to the division director via email. The Tryout form must be completed prior to attending tryouts, and must be paid prior to stepping on the ice. Team Rosters will not be finalized until the league cut off date.*

U18: Team Selection

It will be the goal of the evaluation team to first choose the highest-level team and proceed down from this point. This is done by scoring each participant on the predetermined skills in the evaluation package. Since Coach is named prior to evaluations (either parent or non-parent) they will have the ability to make decisions on all picks for the team. The Director will provide the Head Coach a list of all players evaluated and the position they play so the coach can make an informed decision. Evaluators are providing information on what they witnessed during the tryout for all players on the ice. The evaluation process is used to separate the skill level between the kids to provide a guided focus on the evaluations. Evaluators and Directors can and will suggest picks for the team based on the evaluations, however the coach will be given final say on the picks for the team. The director will discuss the decision with the coach to ensure the best decision is made for each team. Evaluations will not be given out to parents following the tryout.

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**Note: As many of the coaches in the WMHA and/or TRAC AA are volunteers, there is undoubtedly a chance that they will be a parent of one of the kids that are trying out. We will need to make it perfectly clear on the coach and player selection. Director and Evaluators will make the final decision on placing the coach's child on the roster to avoid any conflict of interest. The Coach and/or child are chosen separately, however will intersect at some point in the selection process. Please understand we as a Division, Association, and Committee are committed to ensuring equal opportunity to all, and all decisions on this matter are taken seriously.*

Head Coach Selections:

Coach Selections are an integral part of the TRAC AA process. To ensure the best person for the position is selected, the TRAC committee will adopt the WMHA Coach Selection Committee Policy. The Coach Selection Committee will consist of the Following: TRAC AA Director / TRAC Committee Members / 1st VP Operations WMHA / Player & Coach Development (WMHA or TRAC). If necessary, TRAC will add the President of WMHA and 2nd VP Operations to the Selection Committee. A dedicated time frame will be posted to have Coaches in place prior to the Season starting. Once the Application period has passed, applications will be reviewed and approved by the 1st VP Operations. Following approval, the Committee will schedule interviews with all applicants. Once all interviews have taken place, the committee will meet in person to review and select the coaches for each TRAC Division. Coaches will be announced following the selection meeting. Coaches will then be required to meet with the committee to discuss the upcoming season and a timeline of events.

Following Coach Selections, all coaches will adhere to the Coach Requirements set forth by Hockey Alberta. The TRAC Committee is dedicated to the continuous development of our Coaches and Athletes. All Coaches will be required to have their Courses completed prior to the November 15 Deadline. TRAC will work with each individual coach during this process.

Section 5: Conflicts resulting from the Evaluation Process

1. All questions, comments and complaints will be directed to the Director(s) following a 24 hour cool down period.
2. All Questions, Comments, and Complaints must be provided to the Director in Writing (either by email or a signed written document)
3. All Questions, Comments, and Complaints provided to the director may take up to 72 hours to review and address. Depending on the nature of the issue at hand, this process may be sped up.
 1. In any cases involving Ethical Incidents / Issues, they will be handled immediately. The Director will be responsible for communicating this to the Following Executive Board Members:
 1. WMHA President
 2. WMHA VP 1
 3. WMHA VP 2
 4. WMHA Game and Conduct Director
 4. If the conflict cannot be resolved by the Director alone, a written request for appeal will then be given to the Director who will forward it to the President of Whitecourt Minor Hockey. Appeals will be taken a minimum of 24 hours after the end of the evaluation process. The written request shall include documentation of the problem, clearly stating all the components of the situation with detail and timelines.