



STANDARDIZED EVALUATION GUIDELINES

Hockey Nova Scotia Female Council • Last Updated April 2025

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Female Hockey Associations (FHAs):

- Cape Breton Blizzard
- Fundy Highland Stars
- Metro East Inferno
- Metro West Force
- Quad County Whitecaps
- Valley Wild
- Western Riptide

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Individuals/Councils:

- Courtney Rawding, Valley Regional Director, Hockey Nova Scotia
- Garreth MacDonald, Communications, Hockey Nova Scotia
- Female Council, Hockey Nova Scotia

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DEFINITIONS:

Please refer to the following terms and their definitions for clarity and understanding throughout this document:

Division: Age group in which a player is registered such as U9, U11, U13, U15, and U18
(Regulation F1.25.)

Levels: The separation of the players within a division such as C, A, AA, and AAA
(Regulation F1.26.)

Caregivers: Refers to individuals who provide care, support, and guidance to someone, particularly children, regardless of their specific relationship or legal status. It encompasses parents, guardians, and family members such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, or siblings.

Female Hockey Association (FHA): FHAs are organizations dedicated to promoting and supporting female hockey players within a specific region or community. These associations are responsible for organizing teams, managing player development, and overseeing hockey programs tailored to female athletes. They often focus on fostering inclusivity, skill development, and competitive opportunities for players of all ages and skill levels. FHAs also work closely with governing bodies, such as Hockey Nova Scotia, to ensure alignment with regulations and to provide resources for players, coaches, and families.

Hockey Nova Scotia Female Council (HNSFC): HNSFC is a governing body within Hockey Nova Scotia that focuses on supporting and advancing female hockey across the province. It oversees initiatives, programs, and policies aimed at promoting inclusivity, skill development, and competitive opportunities for female players. The council works closely with regional directors, associations, and other stakeholders to ensure alignment with Hockey Nova Scotia's regulations and to foster growth in female hockey at all levels.

Regional Director (RD): RDs are representatives on HNSFC responsible for overseeing female hockey activities within a specific region of Nova Scotia. Their role includes supporting local FHAs ensuring compliance with Hockey Nova Scotia regulations and facilitating communication between the council and regional stakeholders. They play a key part in promoting female hockey, addressing regional needs, and contributing to the development and growth of the sport across the province.

INTRODUCTION

Player evaluations can be challenging, but clear steps and guidelines are essential to ensuring fairness, objectivity, and accuracy in both individual and team development. By implementing a well-defined framework, organizations can reduce bias, promote objectivity, and provide clear direction for coaches, evaluators, and other stakeholders. This not only improves the accuracy of evaluations but also helps identify individual and team strengths, as well as areas for growth—ultimately fostering skill development and enhancing team performance.

A strong evaluation framework also serves as a reliable tool for FHAs to maintain transparent communication with families. Transparency is critical for building trust and understanding, as caregivers often seek clarity on how their child’s abilities are assessed and what opportunities are available for improvement. Additionally, a robust process equips members with constructive feedback, fostering a shared commitment to growth and development.

These guidelines draw on references from existing FHA evaluation policies, HNS policies, and Hockey Canada Pathways and Guidelines. To establish a standardized process across the province and minimize complaints or perceived bias, **FHAs are expected to adhere to the minimum requirements outlined in this document.**

OBJECTIVES

Our objectives align with the principles outlined in *Hockey Canada’s Player Evaluation and Selection Guide*:

- » To provide a fair and impartial assessment of a player’s total hockey skills during the skating and scrimmage session.
- » To ensure that players have a reasonable opportunity of being selected to a team appropriate to their skill levels as determined during the on-ice evaluations of the current year.
- » To provide effective feedback in order to develop players.
- » **To provide uniformity and consistency in the evaluation process such that player and caregiver expectations are consistent from year to year as players move through the various levels of the association’s programs.**
- » **To form teams to maintain balanced and competitive play where the athletes can develop and participate equitably and have fun playing hockey during the season.**

ADMINISTRATION

ABSENTEEISM

To maintain fairness and consistency in evaluations, all players and caregivers must make every reasonable effort to attend all evaluation sessions for their respective level.

The following regulation outlines the prohibition of registering with multiple associations for evaluations:

Regulation F2. 23. Female players choosing to play female hockey must attend the female tryout process from the beginning and will not be permitted to be part of both a minor tryout process and female tryout process at the same time.

Minimum Participation Requirement:

Unless excused due to absence or injury, each player must attend a minimum of 75% of evaluation sessions to qualify for placement at any level of representative hockey within the FHA.

Any absences or injuries must be promptly communicated to the FHA President and Evaluation Chair. Failure to provide timely notification to the appropriate parties will result in a score of “0” for each session missed without prior notice.

Absences: If a player becomes ill or injured and cannot complete the full evaluation process, their ranking will be determined based on the session(s) they participated in, and their scores will be prorated for the missed sessions.

Injuries: Players who are unable to attend evaluations entirely due to injury must submit a note from their family physician or nurse practitioner to the FHA President and Evaluation Chair.

This note will be considered alongside other pertinent details about the player’s abilities, such as statistics from the previous season, video footage, and feedback from other coaches, to ensure an informed decision about player placement.

APPEAL/COMPLAINT PROCESS

Appeals and complaints will only be considered if the policies and procedures outlined in this document have not been adhered to. These must be submitted via email using the designated appeal/complaint form (**Appendix A**) to the following parties:

- » FHA President
- » Evaluation Chair
- » Regional Director

Please note that appeals regarding evaluation scores or comparisons to other players will not be accepted.

PLAYER AND CAREGIVER GUIDELINES

- 1 Position Declaration:** Players in the U13, U15, and U18 divisions must declare their position before evaluations. FHAs reserve the right to meet with players and caregivers after the initial evaluation session to discuss potential position changes if appropriate.
- 2 Identifying Gear:** Players are prohibited from wearing identifying socks, pant shells, gloves, or helmets (including stickers). FHA colors and attire are acceptable. Players wearing non-compliant gear will be asked to leave the session.
- 3 Registration and Jerseys:** Players must register upon arrival at the first evaluation session. During registration, each player will be assigned a pinnie/jersey, which must be returned at the end of the evaluation process. Players are not permitted to swap jerseys during the evaluation process.
- 4 Respectful Behaviour:** Players and caregivers are expected to show respect toward all participants, evaluators, FHA members, and volunteers. Disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated and will result in immediate dismissal from the remainder of the evaluation process.
- 5 Interaction with Evaluation Committee:** Players and caregivers are not permitted to interact with evaluators or ask questions before, during, or after evaluation sessions. Any inquiries during the evaluation process must be sent via email to the FHA President and Evaluation Chair.

6 Viewing Policy: Caregivers are prohibited from being on the bench or standing at rink/glass level during evaluations. Viewing is permitted only from the designated viewing section, away from the designated evaluator section. FHAs may, at their discretion, impose additional restrictions on caregiver access to evaluations. This policy ensures that players and evaluators can perform without distractions.

7 Restricted Areas: During evaluations, caregivers and any individuals not part of the evaluation committee are prohibited from accessing the following areas:

- » Dressing rooms and surrounding areas
- » Hallways near dressing rooms
- » Designated evaluator sections

If players need help getting dressed for ice time, one designated caregiver may assist them before returning to the approved viewing areas for the duration of the session.

8 Dressing Room Policy: All policies and procedures outlined in *Hockey Canada's Dressing Room Policy* must be adhered to. Key points include:

Rule of Two: To best ensure safety for all participants, all minor hockey programs sanctioned by Hockey Canada and its Members are required to implement the 'Rule of Two' for all dressing rooms. The 'Rule of Two' requires two trained and screened adults to be present in the dressing room or immediately outside the dressing room with the door propped open to monitor the environment and ensure it is free of any discrimination, harassment, bullying, or other forms of maltreatment. The Rule of Two remains in place when showers are in use.

Minimum Attire Rule: To best promote inclusion and to respect the privacy of all participants on a team, Hockey Canada requires all participants to wear 'minimum attire' at all times in a dressing room or in dressing environments where more than one participant is present. This means that participants should arrive at the rink wearing a base layer (e.g., shorts and t-shirt, compression shorts and shirt or sports bra). A participant not arriving at the rink wearing their base layer can use an appropriate private space (e.g., private restroom stalls or empty/unused dressing rooms) to change into the base layer and then enter the team dressing room with the other participants.

PLAYER MOVEMENT PROCESS

The following outlines the process for hockey players requesting permission to transfer to another FHA.

This process applies in the following scenarios:

1. No top-level team exists in your age division within your geographical home association.
2. There are no teams available in your age division within your geographical home association.
3. Movement is required to address team needs as determined by HNSFC.
4. Transfers between any combination of associations—MHA, FHA, or MMFHL teams.

Requests will not be considered for the following reasons:

- » Seeking additional tryouts.
- » Dislike of a coach, assigned team, teammates, or ice time allocation.
- » Movement requests made after a player has been named to a roster and the team has been formed.

To initiate the Player Movement process, follow these steps:

- » Complete the *Player Movement Form*. The form will automatically be forwarded to your FHA President and RD.
- » Properly completed applications will be reviewed, and a decision will be provided within seven (7) days in accordance with Hockey Nova Scotia Regulations.
- » The FHA President will email the applicant with the official decision. If approved, the original FHA administration must submit a transfer request within HCR, which will then be considered by the accepting RD.

If your transfer request is *denied* by the original FHA and you wish to escalate, provide your RD with the following documentation:

1. A detailed rationale from the player/caregiver explaining why the transfer is requested.
2. A written statement from the player's FHA President outlining the reasons for denial.
3. Copies of any correspondence regarding the movement issue.
4. Once all documentation is received, the RD will forward the request to HNSFC for review.

After exhausting all the steps above, you retain the right to appeal the HNSFC decision to Hockey Nova Scotia as per its regulations.

STANDARD COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS

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Each FHA is responsible for sharing the following information with their members before the evaluation process begins:

1. Details regarding registration, including fees, deadlines, and other relevant specifics.
2. Details regarding evaluation formatting, specifying the number of skill sessions versus intrasquad sessions.
3. Key contact information, particularly for the FHA President, Evaluation Chair, and RD.
4. Breakdown of anticipated divisions, levels, and teams within the association for that specific season (C, A, AA, AAA).
5. A copy of the *Standardized Evaluation Guidelines*, with a strong emphasis on the player and caregiver expectations section.
6. Information regarding the notification expectations for player movement, groupings, and final team placements throughout the evaluation process. This includes a defined timeline for team selection.

HNSFC strongly recommends that associations post information about player movement, groupings, and final team placements on an accessible page of the FHA website. Before this posting, a blind carbon copy (BCC) email must be sent to relevant members, providing notification of the posting along with a direct link. Social media should not be used for this purpose, as it is not a secure platform for sharing important information.

EVALUATION PROCESS

EVALUATION FORMAT

Given the diverse structures and sizes of our FHAs, it is the responsibility of the Evaluation Chair to design a evaluation process that aligns with their specific population and resources. However, all FHAs must adhere to the **minimum** ice time requirements outlined below. Your evaluation committee may choose to schedule additional ice time beyond these minimum requirements.

According to the *Hockey Canada Player Pathways*, FHAs must provide **two recreational skates** prior to evaluations. These sessions allow players to ease nerves, reconnect with peers, and build confidence in their skills before the evaluated portion of evaluations begins. **For evaluations, FHAs must offer a minimum of three ice sessions for the U11, U13, U15, and U18 divisions. One session must focus on skills development, while the remaining sessions consist of intrasquad games.**

Exception to minimum ice time requirements:

For **AA** or **AAA** groups with two teams within the same division and level, an additional intrasquad session must be conducted for balancing purposes. **This final intrasquad game will consist of the proposed balanced teams and any additional players that are on the bubble**, as determined by the Evaluation Chair. A third-party representative from HNSFC will oversee this intrasquad game to provide final guidance on team formation and balancing. For more details, refer to the Team Selection section.

Skill Sessions:

Skill sessions should focus on fundamental movement skills, including skating, puck control, passing, and shooting, with an emphasis on progression and age-appropriate instruction.

U11/13: Developing Fundamental Skills and Game Understanding:

- » **Skating:** Speed, agility, and edge control.
- » **Puck Control:** Handling the puck in both open and confined spaces with skills like dekes and fakes.
- » **Passing:** Accuracy, vision, and control in passing.

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- » **Shooting:** Technique, accuracy, and shot selection.
- » **Positional Play:** Understanding key offensive and defensive principles.

U15/18: Refining Advanced Skills and Game Strategies:

- » **Skating:** Advanced techniques, speed, and endurance.
- » **Puck Control:** Advanced handling, puck protection, and stick work.
- » **Passing:** Advanced techniques, vision, and strategic decision-making.
- » **Shooting:** Improved techniques with a focus on accuracy and power.
- » **Positional Play:** Advanced offensive and defensive strategies.
- » **Checking:** Emphasis on stick checks, angling, and responsible body contact.

Goaltender Skills:

Hockey Canada's Goaltender Development Manual outlines the fundamental progression of skills for goaltenders. The evaluation process should incorporate five key skill areas, tailored to the goaltender's level and age:

- » **Skating Skills:** T-pushes, shuffles, C-cuts, and edge control.
- » **Positional Movement Skills:** Lateral movement, recovery techniques, positioning adjustments, and footwork to maintain proper stance.
- » **Save Movement Skills:** Butterfly saves, kick saves, glove/blocker saves, and post integration.
- » **Rebound Control Skills:** Tracking the puck, stick usage, absorbing shots, glove/blocker positioning, deflections, and puck coverage.
- » **Transitional Play Skills:** Puck retrieval, passing accuracy, and communication to facilitate plays.

EVALUATION PROCESS

Intrasquad Sessions:

The purposes of intrasquad sessions are as follows:

- » **Evaluation:** Intrasquad games play a vital role in the evaluation process, allowing evaluators and coaches to observe players in game scenarios and assess their skills, hockey sense, and ability to perform under pressure.
- » **Team Balancing:** These games help ensure balanced teams by grouping players of similar skill levels, promoting fair competition and individual development.
- » **Placement:** The results of intrasquad games, combined with skill session performances, are used to determine player placements within the FHA.

The act of “**parking**” players during evaluations refers to a practice where top players are excused from certain sessions. Here are several reasons why parking players during the evaluation process is discouraged:

1. **Missed Opportunities for Growth:** Even top players benefit from additional challenges and opportunities to develop their skills. Evaluations often expose players to high-pressure situations that can help them grow and improve.
2. **Perception of Favoritism:** Parking top players can create perceptions of pre-determined outcomes, leading to frustration or disappointment among other players and families. It may diminish the overall fairness of evaluations, as other players may feel they aren’t given equal consideration or opportunities to showcase their skills against top competitors.
3. **Limited Evaluation for Team Dynamics:** Evaluations aren’t just about individual performance; they’re also about seeing how players interact and fit into the team’s dynamic. Excluding top players prevents evaluators from observing how these players contribute to and uplift teammates with varying skill levels – an essential factor in creating balanced teams.
4. **Risk of Misjudgment:** Even top players benefit from continued assessment, as their performance, effort, and attitude can fluctuate, offering insights into their readiness and potential fit within a team.

A more fluid approach, where all players are continuously assessed through varied groupings promotes fairness, transparency, and overall development.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION CRITERIA

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HNSFC recommends adopting the evaluation scores and criteria for performance assessment outlined in **Appendix B**.

This approach encourages a more holistic evaluation of players, focusing on their overall performance rather than isolating individual components like skating, passing, or game sense. It allows evaluators more time to assess each player thoroughly and provide a single comprehensive score per session based on the criteria. This, in turn, streamlines the process for evaluation chairs, allowing them to calculate an average score across all sessions while providing clear definitions for the criteria that determine each player's standing. While this evaluation tool will also apply to goalies, each evaluation committee must include at least one dedicated goalie evaluator at every session to ensure accurate scoring. A comment section should be included to allow evaluators to leave notes if desired.

EVALUATION COMMITTEE STANDARDS

EVALUATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

All individuals participating in evaluations in any capacity must be formally named and submitted to the FHA President and RD prior to the start of the process. These are the minimum committee member requirements; however, FHAs may appoint additional team members if resources permit.

Committee Members and Responsibilities:

» Evaluation Chair:

The Evaluation Chair is responsible for overseeing the evaluation process, requiring strong leadership and organizational skills to manage schedules and coordinate evaluators effectively. They must possess a solid understanding of hockey skills, tactics, and player development, ensuring a fair and unbiased assessment of players. Impartiality and strong communication skills are essential for clearly conveying expectations and results to players, caregivers, and evaluators.

» FHA President and Regional Director:

The FHA President and RD will serve exclusively in consulting roles on the evaluation committee. Their responsibilities will include participation in discussions related to conflict management, policies and procedures, player absenteeism, as well as team selection and balancing. If the FHA president is unavailable to fulfill the duties outlined in this document, they may delegate responsibilities to the vice president of operations. Similarly, if the RD is unavailable, they may defer to a third-party representative from HNSFC, subject to approval by the FC chair.

» Evaluators for Positional Players (4 individuals):

Evaluators should be knowledgeable, impartial, and consistent in applying criteria to ensure fair assessments. Experience in coaching or playing is preferred, along with strong communication skills and professionalism.

» Goaltender Evaluators (2 individuals):

Goaltender evaluators need expertise in goaltending techniques. Experience as a goalie coach or player is preferred, along with strong communication skills and professionalism.

» Bench/On-Ice Staff (4 individuals):

Bench and on-ice staff must be at least two years older than the age group they are facilitating. For instance, staff for the U11 age group must be 15 years or older, while the U15 age group requires staff to be 18 years or older. For the U18 age group, staff must be 21 years or older. Priority should be given to selecting young females, preferably those actively involved in the game within the respective region, for bench and on-ice roles.

Each ice session during the evaluation process must include a minimum of three (3) evaluators and one (1) goaltender evaluator, all of whom must be present from the beginning of the session until the players leave the ice. Evaluators are required to refrain from conversing with one another during the sessions.

Each skill session must have at least two (2) staff members on the ice at all times, drawn from the evaluation committee. For intrasquad games, a minimum of one individual must be present on each bench at all times to ensure safety. Bench and on-ice staff must remain impartial and supportive throughout the entirety of the evaluation process.

Conflicts of interest in player evaluations can occur when evaluators assess players with whom they have personal connections, such as their own child, close relatives, or friends, leading to potential bias. Financial interests, such as sponsorship or business ties to a player's future success, may also compromise impartiality. Additionally, evaluators who have previously coached certain players or have a vested interest in a specific team or organization might struggle to remain objective. Conflicts of interest must be actively managed by the association, as doing so is crucial to maintaining fairness and integrity throughout the process. By addressing these issues proactively, the association ensures that all players are evaluated impartially and that trust in the evaluation system is preserved.

EVALUATION METHOD/SOFTWARE

Each FHA has discretion over the evaluation method and/or software used during the evaluation process. Regardless of the chosen method, the following basic rules must be observed:

- » Performance evaluation criteria must align with those outlined in **Appendix B**.**
- » All players will be allotted equal ice time, ensuring they receive the same number of opportunities for evaluation.**

- » No identifying personal information (such as names or ages) may be visible to evaluators.
- » All evaluation results must remain confidential and be securely stored by the Evaluation Chair.
- » Evaluation results must not be discussed or shared with anyone outside of the evaluation committee.

TEAM SELECTION

Appropriate team selection involves ensuring fairness, transparency, and adherence to established guidelines. The team selection process is vital for maintaining trust, morale, and the overall success of a hockey program. When players and caregivers perceive the selection process as unbiased and transparent, it fosters a sense of confidence in the system and reduces potential conflicts. Fair selection ensures that players are chosen based on their skills, performance, and potential rather than favoritism or external influences, promoting equity and inclusivity.

This approach is also key to player development. By selecting players who meet clearly defined criteria, teams are better positioned to help individuals grow and reach their full potential. It ensures that players are challenged appropriately and placed in an environment that matches their skill level, which is essential for both individual and team progress.

Team Selection Process:

The Evaluation Chair, in collaboration with committee members and team coaches at FHA's discretion, will form teams based on the following guidelines for each level:

C: These players have a solid understanding of the basics, such as skating, passing, and shooting, and are working to refine their skills and improve their overall gameplay. This level is often suited for players who may not desire a highly competitive environment. Their overall performance scores generally range from **0.5 to 1.5**.

Goaltenders at this level are developing foundational skills such as basic skating techniques, positioning awareness, and fundamental save movements.

A: These players are developing their skills and gaining experiences in areas such as skating, puck handling, shooting and teamwork. This level provides a structured environment for players

EVALUATION COMMITTEE STANDARDS

to improve and prepare for higher levels of competition if desired, while still emphasizing enjoyment and growth in the sport. Their overall performance scores generally range from **1.5 to 2.5**.

Goaltenders at this level are advancing their positional movements, refining rebound control, and enhancing their ability to track and react to the play.

AA: These players demonstrate strong skills and abilities in areas such as skating, puck handling, shooting and game sense. While not as competitive as AAA, it is still a significant level of play and provides opportunities for players to develop and advance their skills. Their overall performance scores generally range from **2.5 to 3.5**.

Goaltenders at this level show proficiency in advanced save techniques, lateral movement, post integration, and efficient transitions to support their team's defensive and offensive play.

AAA: These players are often among the most skilled and talented in their age group, showcasing advanced proficiency in skating, stickhandling, shooting, passing, and overall game sense. As a highly competitive level, AAA serves as a pathway for players aiming to reach major, collegiate, university or professional levels. Their overall performance scores generally range from **3.5 to 5**.

Goaltenders at this level exhibit elite skills in all areas, including rapid lateral mobility, precise rebound control, seamless transitions, and high-level positioning strategies to maximize their effectiveness in high-pressure situations.

For divisions with multiple teams at the **AA** or **AAA** level, a team balancing meeting must be conducted, including respective coaches, the Evaluation Chair, the FHA president, and the RD. This initiative is supportive of **Regulation F3.4. An association may register more than one team in the same classification (level) within a division. These teams must consist of players balanced in skill, ability, and of mixed ages within the division.** Balancing teams at the same level is essential for maintaining the integrity of the sport, fostering player growth, and creating a fun and rewarding experience for everyone involved.

APPENDIX A: APPEAL/COMPLAINT FORM

Note: Appeals and complaints will only be considered if the policies and procedures outlined in this document have not been adhered to. Appeals regarding evaluation scores or comparisons to other players will not be accepted. **This form must be completed and submitted via email to the FHA President, Evaluation Chair, and HNSFC Regional Director.**

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COMPLAINANT INFORMATION:

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

PLAYER INFORMATION:

Player's First Name: _____

Player's Last Name: _____

DATE OF SUBMISSION: _____

REASON FOR APPEAL/COMPLAINT (Please provide a detailed explanation below):

.....

REVIEWED BY (Signature): _____

Date Reviewed: _____

APPENDIX B: PLAYER EVALUATION CRITERIA

Score	Performance	Player Criteria	Goaltender Criteria
0.5	Emerging	Learning fundamental skills such as basic skating, passing, and shooting. Limited understanding of gameplay and positioning.	Beginning to develop foundational skills, including basic skating techniques, positioning awareness, and simple save movements.
1	Basic Development	Demonstrates slight improvement in skating, passing, and shooting but lacks consistency. Struggles with game awareness and transitions.	Gaining confidence in movement and stance but shows inconsistency in tracking the puck and controlling rebounds.
1.5	Early Foundation	Has a solid grasp of the basics and is refining skills. Displays some game awareness but requires further development in decision-making and execution.	Developing core goaltending skills, including positioning, fundamental save techniques, and crease movement. Working on overall game awareness.
2	Developing	Skating, puck handling, and shooting abilities are improving. Shows growing confidence and engagement in team play but needs refinement.	Advancing in positional movements, rebound control, and tracking ability. Beginning to refine transitions and recovery techniques.
2.5	Competent	Competent in core skills such as passing, shooting, and puck control. Displays improved teamwork, situational awareness, and competitive mindset.	Demonstrates strong fundamentals in positioning, lateral movement, and reaction speed. Becoming more consistent in reading plays and controlling rebounds.

APPENDIX B: PLAYER EVALUATION CRITERIA

3	Skilled	Skating, puck handling, and overall gameplay execution are solid. Shows tactical awareness and ability to adapt in dynamic game situations.	Shows proficiency in advanced save techniques, post integration, and recovery movements. Displays good control over positioning and movement efficiency.
3.5	Advanced	Strong technical and tactical skills. Competes effectively with strategic play, maintaining composure in high-pressure situations.	Excels in advanced techniques such as seamless lateral mobility, rebound control, and strategic positioning. Reacts quickly and efficiently.
4	Highly Skilled	Highly skilled in all aspects of the game, including skating, shooting, playmaking, and overall game awareness.	High-level control of movement and game flow. Masters post-integration, situational tracking, and play-reading for optimal positioning and save execution.
4.5	Elite	Performs at an advanced level with refined game awareness, execution, and strategic thinking. Competes effectively in high-intensity environments.	Displays elite-level mobility, tracking, and transition efficiency. Minimal errors in positioning or rebound control.
5	Exceptional	Among the most skilled players, showcasing mastery in skating, stickhandling, shooting, passing, and overall game sense. Ready for high-level competition.	Executes goaltending techniques at an elite level, including rapid lateral mobility, precise rebound control, seamless transitions, and top-tier positioning strategies.