

# YCMHA

## COMPETITIVE TRYOUTS



Evaluation Process / Guidelines



## PURPOSE

The key objective of the Yarmouth County Minor Hockey Association (YCMHA) competitive tryout process is to conduct an objective evaluation of player skills and place players where they have the opportunity to participate at a level that fits with their abilities, further develop their skills and most importantly, have fun.

YCMHA wants to ensure that each player is given a fair evaluation and that all players are placed at the appropriate level for their abilities.

### **YCMHA Tryout & Evaluation goals:**

- To provide a fair and impartial assessment of a player's total hockey skills.
- To ensure that players have the 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 YCMHA with the opportunity and flexibility to build a team based on our evaluation process and knowledge of player skills and attitude.
- To provide uniformity and consistency in the evaluation process such that a player and parent 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.
- To Provide feedback in order to facilitate player development.



## EXPECTATIONS OF COMPETITIVE HOCKEY AT YCMHA

It is important that all players and their families realize what is expected of them if they are successful in making a YCMHA competitive team. Our coaches strive to deliver a fair play program that will allow all players to develop, while at the same time, recognizing that hockey is a team sport, and therefore, players are expected to attend all practices, games and team-sanctioned events.

There are also other expectations at the competitive level, which will include the following:

- Early morning/late evening practices on weekdays/ weekends;
- Fundraising to help support the costs of rep fees/tournament fees. Parents/guardians who chose not to fundraise will be expected to pay the equivalent amount themselves;
- Tournaments and the costs associated with them such as gas, motel/ hotels, and meals;
- An average of 1–2 games per week (home and away), 2 practices per week, as well as the possibility of exhibition games.

### PARENT/GUARDIAN MEETING

- Immediately prior to the first tryout session at each age group, one parent/guardian of each player **must attend a mandatory meeting** with one of the YCMHA tryout committee members. This meeting will go over the tryout process and expectations of both parents and players.
- Any concerns or complaints regarding the tryout process can be directed to [vp@YCMHA.ca](mailto:vp@YCMHA.ca). Please note that complaints/concerns will only be answered 24-48 hrs after the tryout process is complete.
- Harassing and/or threatening behaviour will not be tolerated, and will be dealt with as per the YCMHA code of conduct that applies to both parents and players.



## ALL DIVISIONS - GENERAL POLICIES

A tryout committee, consisting of the following members, will be established each year and will organize and coordinate the tryout and evaluation process for YCMHA:

- YCMHA President
  - YCMHA Vice President
  - YCMHA Development Director
  - YCMHA Rep Director
  - YCMHA Registrar
  - Community Member who is a non-parent (Matt Barron)
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- The sole purpose of the tryout committee is to ensure the processes and procedures within this document are followed.
  - Evaluation committee members will declare conflict for certain divisions if their child is trying out. If such a declaration is made, that committee member will not be part of the evaluation process for that age group.
  - The tryout committee will establish an evaluation group and will work with this group to establish the drills to be used for players evaluation.
  - All individual player ratings and scores will be held confidential within the members of the tryout committee. Under no circumstances will player ratings, scores, or placement relative to others be made public or disclosed to any individual not involved directly in the team selection process.
  - Player groups, regrouping, tiering or sorting can only be posted to the website after the evaluation group has presented the list to the tryout committee and the tryout committee has approved the list to be posted.  
\*\*\*Please note the tryout committee cannot change the lists as presented unless they find the evaluation group did not follow the processes outlined in this document.



## EVALUATOR GUIDELINES

- Evaluators will be chosen by the tryout committee.
- An evaluation team will be established for each level consisting of an overall evaluation lead and a minimum of three total evaluators. Evaluators will be assigned to a specific level.
- Evaluation leads are responsible to ensure data integrity and consistency throughout the tryout and evaluation process.
- YCMHA will prioritize the selection of non-parent evaluators for each group. In the event that a parent evaluator is required in order to achieve sufficient numbers, the evaluator will not be permitted to evaluate the level in which their child plays.
- Players are identified by jersey color and number so no names are available to evaluators.
- Evaluation teams will meet with a tryout committee member before tryouts begin to ensure consistency in the evaluation approach. The intent of the session is to review drill plans, expected skill demonstration and the nature of the evaluation.
- Evaluators will not have parent interaction during the evaluation session. Evaluators will remain for the entire 50 minute ice session.
- Releases will be made after each group's second ice session. Released players will be invited back for the next tier team. Number of releases will be determined by the tryout committee.



## EVALUATION CRITERIA AND WEIGHING

- A weighted scoring/evaluation system is preferred and is used by numerous hockey associations across Canada. It captures the abilities of the players, not only based on their skill but also while evaluating their in-game abilities.
- Below is the table used to determine percentages of weight attached to each session during the tryout process.

Division	Number of Sessions	Skills	Weight	Scrimmage s (Intra-squad)	Weight
U11	4	1 session divided into "skills" and "tactical" blocks	12.5% Skills 12.5% Tactical	3	25% each
U13	4	1	25%	3	25% each
U15	4	1	25%	3	25% each
U18	3 or 4	1	25%	2 or 3	25% each



## **GOALTENDER SELECTION**

Goaltenders will be selected by the evaluation group while being assisted by Yarmouth Jr A Mariners staff and/or outside evaluators with goaltending experience.

- Goaltenders at each level will be assessed on the following:
  1. Physical characteristics
  2. Technical characteristics
  3. Situational tactics characteristics
  4. Mental characteristics
- Each of these categories will include sub-categories such as mobility, post-play, anticipation, discipline, etc.

## **U9 INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCING**

- U9 selection will consist of 1 skill session and 1 scrimmage session. Evaluators will follow the same guidelines and principles established for competitive teams in evaluating players.



## COACH INPUT

- If a coach has been selected for the team prior to tryouts, the coach will have some input into the final roster selection of the team.
- The evaluation team will provide the coach with the top 7 forwards and top 4 defence as rated during the evaluation process. These 7 forwards and 4 defence will be considered as being on the team, and cannot be removed from the roster.
- The evaluation group will then provide the coach with the next 4 forwards and 4 defence as evaluated. Within this second group, the coach will have input as to which players they choose to add to their roster (2 forwards and 2 defence). This decision will be based on a variety of factors, including attitude and effort, previous experience with the player (positive or negative), ability to be coached, being a good teammate, etc. The coach will have to justify their decision to the members of tryout committee if they choose a player who scored lower during the evaluation process.
- If the coach has a child that has been scored as the 10th or 11th forward or the 7th or 8th defence, and wishes to place that player on the final roster, the final decision will rest with the tryout committee.