



Cochrane Minor Hockey Association (CMHA)

Policy Title: AA/AAA Policies and Procedures

Effective Date: September 15, 2024

Website: www.cochraneminorhockey.com

1.0 Overview

This policy provides guidance to the VP High Performance and the High Performance Director in overseeing the AA/AAA Evaluation process. The objective is to ensure players are placed in a standardized, fair, and transparent manner using CMHA's evaluation policy and procedures.

2.0 Responsibilities of Various Parties Involved

- 2.1 CMHA Executive and High-Performance Director are responsible for overseeing the team formation process.
 - 2.2 Determine coach selection. Head Coaches for AEHL teams are selected prior to evaluations.
 - 2.3 High Performance Director ensures that all documentation is received, and all fees are paid before player participation.
 - 2.4 High Performance Director manages all submitted grievances in accordance with the CMHA Grievance Procedure.
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3.0 Parents

- 3.1 Ensure all necessary paperwork and fees are completed before the player participates in evaluations.
 - 3.2 Ensure their child attends all sessions.
 - 3.3 Ensure the player has proper, well-fitted, and safe equipment in compliance with Hockey Canada's Official Playing Rules.
 - 3.4 Understand the evaluation process and prepare their child accordingly.
 - 3.5 Be prepared for the level of commitment required.
 - 3.6 Avoid any contact with evaluators at any time during evaluations.
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4.0 Players

- 4.1 Attend all sessions.
- 4.2 Follow the instructions of session leaders.
- 4.3 Be ready at least 15 minutes before scheduled ice times.



5.0 Evaluators

- 5.1 Remain impartial throughout the evaluation process.
 - 5.2 Report any attempt to approach or influence them to the appropriate designate.
 - 5.3 Evaluate each player fairly, consistently, and comprehensively.
 - 5.4 Keep all player scores and rankings confidential.
 - 5.5 Protect the confidentiality and integrity of all evaluation data.
 - 5.6 Communicate only with the VP of High-Performance.
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6.0 Coach Selection Policy

- 6.1 Interviews for AA/AAA team coaches are conducted by a preselected committee. Applicants with a child eligible to play in that division are excluded from that interview process. If no suitable coach is selected, a parent-coach may be appointed at the committee's discretion.
 - 6.2 Head Coaches may recommend non-parent assistant coaches, pending committee approval and background checks.
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7.0 Coach Certifications

- 7.1 The Coach Selection Committee establishes, communicates, and enforces coaching and managerial policies.
 - 7.2 Coaches must meet the education standards of Hockey Canada and Hockey Alberta.
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8.0 Fair Play Policies

- 8.1 CMHA supports equal play for all players up to and including the U13 AA level. U15 AA and older divisions operate under a modified equal play policy allowing coaching discretion in player usage.
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9.0 Circumstances Regarding Players

- 9.1 **Late Arrival:** Registered players attending out-of-town tryouts may participate in remaining AA evaluations upon return. The VP and High-Performance Director may reserve a spot for late evaluations.
- 9.2 **Illness or Injury:** Must be reported immediately to the High-Performance Director with a doctor's note. A Return-to-Play note is required before resuming activity.
- 9.3 **Other Circumstances:** Any other reason for absence must be brought to the



High-Performance Director and VP (non-parent). They will assess legitimacy and may impose conditions.

10.0 Evaluations

- 10.1 Team formation is managed by the High-Performance Director, Goalie Director, VPs (non-parent), coaches, and evaluators.
 - 10.2 No player is guaranteed a roster spot.
 - 10.3 Independent evaluators are used to promote fairness and transparency.
 - 10.4 Players are identified only by jersey color and number—no names are given to evaluators.
 - 10.5 Only coaches and evaluators may participate in evaluations.
 - 10.6 Final team decisions are based on evaluator rankings and overall performance.
 - 10.7 Goalie evaluation includes independent goalie evaluators.
 - 10.8 Final rosters must be approved by the Executive.
 - 10.10 Any deviations must be pre-approved by the High-Performance Director and a VP.
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11.0 Team Size

- 11.1 Each division has one AA team with a recommended minimum and maximum number of players. Final team size is at the discretion of the High-Performance Director and a VP.
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12.0 Team Roster Policy

- 12.1 Each AA/AAA team must register a minimum of 15 and a maximum of 18 players, including 2 goaltenders.
 - 12.2 Exceptions may be granted under extraordinary circumstances with approval from the CMHA VPs and High-Performance Director.
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13.0 Grievances / Breaches of Conduct

- 13.1 Written concerns about the evaluation process must be submitted within 10 days. Grievances focused solely on player ranking or team placement will not be accepted.
 - 13.2 *Disclaimer:* CMHA reserves the right to revise this policy as necessary.
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14.0 AA Affiliations Policy



14.1 The AA/AAA Hockey Model defines affiliation regulations, which may change annually. Please refer to the Hockey Alberta website for current policy. [Affiliation Supplementation - Eligibility Tool](#)