



Cochrane Minor Hockey Association (CMHA)

Policy Title: Intro to Hockey Evaluations – U7 & U9

Effective Date: September 15, 2024

Website: www.cochraneminorhockey.com

1.0 Overview

CMHA recognizes that evaluations are a critical part of team formation for players, parents, and the Association. The objective is to ensure a **fair, unbiased process** where players are evaluated based solely on their on-ice performance. This policy applies to evaluations within the **U7 and U9 Intro to Hockey divisions**.

- 1.1 Support a structured and transparent evaluation process.
 - 1.2 Enable players to demonstrate their ability in a fair environment.
 - 1.3 Align team placement with skill development principles and CMHA's interpretation of Hockey Canada's **Fair Play Code**.
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2.0 Policy

- 2.1 **All registration fees** must be paid (or payment plans arranged) before a player may participate in evaluations.
- 2.2 If timed trials are used, an **independent provider** will facilitate drills appropriate to the players' age and skill.
- 2.3 Players will be assigned **helmet stickers with numbers** to preserve anonymity during evaluations.
- 2.4 Players must attend **all assigned evaluation sessions**:
 - 2.4.1 Time Trial (1 session per skater)
 - 2.4.2 Evaluation Skates (up to 2 per skater/stream)
- 2.5 Evaluation skates will be observed by volunteer evaluators, ideally with the following background:
 - 2.5.1 Prior player evaluation experience
 - 2.5.2 Hockey coaching or playing background
 - 2.5.3 No children in the same division
 - 2.5.4 Ability to attend all evaluations for consistency
- 2.8 All collected data will be entered into designated **evaluation software or Excel**, ranked from top to bottom.
- 2.9 Teams will be created based on evaluation results and approved under **Section 5.0 – Team Creation**.



2.10 Questions about evaluations must be directed to the **Division Coordinator**. Evaluations and placements **are not subject to appeal** (see Grievance Policy #8.1.2).

3.0 Evaluation Phase

- 3.1 No evaluation skates will be scheduled during the **first week of school**.
 - 3.2 Players will receive at least **4 prep skates** before evaluations begin (included in registration).
 - 3.3 Players must participate in a **minimum of 2 evaluation skates** prior to team assignments.
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4.0 General Information

- 4.1 Evaluations will focus strictly on **on-ice performance** during scheduled sessions.
 - 4.2 Individual rankings are **confidential** and not released to players or parents.
 - 4.3 Any evaluator with a child in the division must **recuse themselves** from that age group's evaluations.
 - 4.4 Injuries or absences will be reviewed by the Evaluation Committee on a **case-by-case basis**.
 - 4.5 **Attendance is mandatory** unless an injury or illness is reported:
 - 4.5.1 Missing time trials = placement in lowest group
 - 4.5.2 Missing an evaluation skate = drop one group for the next skate
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5.0 Evaluation Procedures

- 5.1 U9 players will be **ranked top to bottom** based on time trial results.
 - 5.2 Evaluation skates will include:
 - 4-on-4 half-ice game play
 - One skater acting as goalie
 - 60-second shifts
 - Live puck game format
 - Rotating positions each skate
 - Evaluations conducted by a **3rd party group**
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6.0 Team Creation

- 6.1 U9 players will be drafted into **A, B, or C parity teams**, aiming for **17–18 players per team**.
- 6.2 U7 players will be **evenly distributed** among 8 teams, maintaining **skill parity** across rosters.

