



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.

All Divisions – General Policies

1. 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 Development Director
 - YCMHA Rep Director
 - YCMHA Referee in Chief
 - YCMHA Registrar
 - YCMHA Evaluation Liaison

The sole purpose of the Tryout Committee is to ensure the processes and procedures within this document are followed.

2. The Tryout Committee will establish an Evaluation Group and will work with this group to establish the drills to be used for players evaluation.
3. 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.
4. 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.

5. All members who are involved in the Tryout and Evaluation process are required to declare any conflicts of interest prior to the beginning of the tryout and evaluation process. Tryout Committee Members, YCMHA Executive members who have a player involved will be removed from the process for the level at which their child plays.

Evaluation 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 and all efforts made to ensure evaluation teams do not cross over from one level to another.
- Evaluation leads are responsible to ensure data integrity and consistency throughout the tryout and evaluation process.
- YCMHA will prioritize the selection of non-parent/relative evaluators with no personal interest in YCMHA. 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. All efforts will be made to assign parent evaluators to a level that is 2 levels removed from the level of their player.
- Players are identified by jersey color and number so no names are available to evaluators.
- Evaluation teams will meet with the Tryout Committee 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-to-80-minute ice session.
- The group of evaluators will remain consistent throughout tryouts for each division. New evaluators may be brought in when second tier tryouts begin.
- **Cuts 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 & weighting

| Division | Number of Sessions | Skill Sessions | Weight | Intrasquad | Weight |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| U11 | 5 | 3 | 60% | 2 | 40% |
| U13 | 4-5 | 2 | 45% | 2-3 | 55% |
| U15 | 4-5 | 2 | 40% | 2-3 | 60% |