

**POLICY 6**  
**TEAM FORMATION - DRAFTING**

**6.1 General Draft Requirements**

- 6.1.1 SRA will use a draft system for the formation of U8, U10, and U12 teams as well as B teams in U14, U16, and U19.
- 6.1.2 The purpose of drafts is to form teams of similar caliber and of roughly equal proportions of first and second year players. Number of years played should also be taken into account.

**6.2 U8 Division Draft**

- 6.2.1 In the U8 division, following the last evaluation ice time, the coaches, U8 Commissioner, and VP of Coaching (or designate) will work together to create even teams by equally distributing players by skill level (beginner, intermediate, advanced) and by year in the sport (new player, first or second year U8).
- 6.2.2 Where possible, parent requests for friends to be on the same team will be accommodated.

**6.3 U10 – U19 Drafts**

- 6.3.1 The Director of Coach Development and appropriate division commissioner will be in attendance at all drafts. If either of these board members is unable to attend, SRA will designate an alternate neutral board member. If possible, the VP of Athlete Development should also attend the drafts.
- 6.3.2 The Director of Athlete Development (or designate) is responsible for providing player rankings based on evaluation results, as well as other relevant information (i.e. year in division, number of years played).
- 6.3.3 The Director of Athlete Development (or designate) will send electronic versions of the player rankings to the Director of Coach Development and each respective division commissioner. A template will also be provided to enter player data and calculate team scores.
- 6.3.4 Players in U12-U19 who have expressed interest in playing goal half-time or more will be labelled as such in the player rankings document. Efforts should be made to distribute these players evenly across the teams. Their overall evaluation scores are to be factored into team scores.

**6.4 Draft Procedures**

- 6.4.1 Bench staff must “protect”/select their own children in the draft. Prior to the final determination of player rankings, division commissioners will collect and send the names of protected players to the Director of Athlete Development (or designate). Parents of declared protected players should be contacted by

commissioners to verify their intent to be a bench staff member. No one team can have more than two protected players in the first round of the draft.

- 6.4.2 Prior to the draft meeting, the division commissioner will provide all coaches with an electronic version of the draft format, so that they are familiar with the process.
- 6.4.3 The division commissioner will provide all coaches with hard copies of the draft format and player rankings.
- 6.4.4 Special requests from players, coaches, and parents/guardians will be noted on the player rankings document. SRA will attempt, but cannot guarantee, fulfillment of these requests. The primary factor in making this determination will be whether it significantly impacts the evenness of the teams. In reviewing requests, the Board shall consider such matters as car-pooling arrangements for those living outside of Saskatoon and any other factors that the Board, in its discretion, reasonably determines.
- 6.4.5 Player rankings will be considered final except in cases where a player had missing data because they missed one or more evaluation ice times, which will be noted in the document. If there is consensus among those present that a player with missing data appears to be ranked too high or too low, the player may be moved and assigned the same score as the player whose position they are being moved to.
- 6.4.6 The Director of Coach Development and commissioner will co-facilitate the draft. The commissioner will enter player data and monitor the evenness of median team scores and distributions by year in division and years played. The Director of Coach Development and commissioner will review the draft format with the coaches and answer any questions before starting the draft.
- 6.4.7 A random draw (e.g. roll of the dice) will determine the selection order. Players will be listed in descending order based on overall evaluation scores. The selection of players will take place in rounds and will follow the order of player rankings.
- 6.4.8 The selection order that was determined randomly will be used as follows, using five teams as an example: 1-2-3-4-5 then the reverse order (5-4-3-2-1), continuing this pattern until all players are selected.
- 6.4.9 The first round has double the number of players as there are teams; for example, if there are five teams, the first round will consist of the top 10 players so that each team gets two higher-ranked players. In subsequent rounds, the number of players in each round is equal to the number of teams.
- 6.4.10 In the first two rounds, if a team wants to skip down the list and pick a player from the third round, they cannot go back up to pick a player who was ranked in the top 10 until every team had a chance to select those players.

- 6.4.11 Once the draft is completed, the commissioner will assess differences in the median evaluation score for each team, as well as differences in composition according to year in the division and years played. Median scores should be no more than 0.25 points apart (e.g. 8.75 and 9.00 as the largest acceptable difference). The group will work together to move players between teams in order to meet this condition.
- 6.4.12 The Director of Coach Development and commissioner will then ask if all coaches are satisfied with the team compositions and relative median scores. Any changes must be made at that time. Following any further changes, coaches must verbally agree that they are satisfied with the teams and that the draft is finalized. No changes will be permitted once the draft is finalized.
- 6.4.13 To protect player confidentiality with respect to ranking information, coaches will be told that any information exchanged during the draft is confidential and is not to be discussed outside the meeting. Confidentiality breaches will be subject to disciplinary action.
- 6.4.14 The commissioner will e-mail team rosters and bench staff information (names, mailing addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses) to SRA office within 48 hours of the draft.