



# Menomonie Youth Hockey Association

620 17th Street – Menomonie, WI  
54751

Policy #: \_\_\_\_\_ 3.280 \_\_\_\_\_.

Effective: \_\_\_\_\_ Sept. 2024.

Revised: \_\_\_\_\_ September 2024

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## MYHA Tryout Policy

**Policy:** It is the policy of Menomonie Youth Hockey Association (MYHA) to provide the association membership with the MYHA Tryout policy. The MYHA Tryout Policy applies to all registered players with MYHA / USA Hockey and within WAHA.

### Procedure:

### Tryout Overview

MYHA Tryouts will take place over four nights. The first two nights will be on ice tryouts, the third will be a deliberation night for evaluators, and the fourth night will be the final on ice tryout if needed by evaluators. The skaters will be evaluated by a panel of five people with a high level of hockey knowledge. Evaluators will be spread out in the rink and asked not to discuss players while the tryout is taking place. The evaluators will use the scoring process detailed below in the “Scoring Process” section. Skaters will be evaluated based on the criteria listed below in the “Evaluation Criteria” section. MYHA will provide a team size projection document prior to tryouts. This document will be a team size recommendation based on the number of skaters registered at the level.

This year MYHA will open tryouts up to parents. Parents will be allowed to sit in a designated section of the bleachers or community room. Please see attached “Parent Rules” document for more details.

### Day One

The purpose of the first day of tryouts will be to evaluate small area game play 3v3. There will also be an initial goalie drill that will warm-up the goalies, however, will also double as an initial evaluation of the goalies. Players think they are being evaluated, but they are not.

- Skaters will be split alphabetically by last name.
- Skaters will be assigned to wear a light or dark jersey.
- Pre assigned pin on numbers will be handed out to skaters as they check in.
- Skaters will warm up the goalies first. This will be part of the goalie evaluation
- Skaters will play 3v3 cross ice games.
- Tryout Admin will collect scoring sheets from evaluators, and enter scores into Team Genius
- Evaluators will be asked not discuss scores after the first tryout
- Tryout Admin will review Evaluator scores in Team Genius to set next day’s schedule
- Tryout Admin will communicate the next day’s tryout time for each skater that evening.



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## Day Two

The purpose of the second day is to evaluate full ice game play. The teams and lines will be split based on day one scores. During play lines may shift at the request of evaluators.

- Skaters will be split based on day one scores.
- Skaters will keep the same pin on number from night one but may be asked to switch jersey color.
- Skaters will play 4v4 and 5v5 in 2 minute intervals.
- Tryout Admin will collect scoring sheets from evaluators, and evaluators will enter scores into Team Genius
- Tryout Admin will facilitate the meeting of evaluators to finalize teams

## Scoring Process

Day 1 of tryouts is designed to place skaters in the specific buckets listed below for Day 2

### Day 1 – General Block Scoring

#### **Filling 3 Teams**

Day 1 Block Scoring	
4	Definitely an A Skater
3	A or B Skater
2	B or C Skater
1	Definitely an C Skater

#### **Filling 2 Teams**

Day 1 Block Scoring	
3	Definitely an A Skater
2	A or B Skater
1	Definitely B Skater

- Block system: Individual scores are not provided to players. Instead, each evaluator places the players into a “block” after each tryout session.
- For Day 1 - Focus mainly on sorting the players on the top and bottom teams and spend more time on “bubble” players during evaluations.



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- There is no limit to the number of skaters placed in each block.



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## Day 3 – Team Selection

Day 2 Team Selection	
A	Team size based on Team Size Projection document
B	Team size based on Team Size Projection document
C	Team size based on Team Size Projection document

- Evaluators will place each skater on a specific team
- Tryout Admin will facilitate the team selection meeting detailed below in the “Team Selection” section.

## Evaluation Criteria

- **Hockey Sense - Awareness of the Game:** Knows how play will develop, Player in right place/right time, Calls for puck/directs play verbally, Understands when to line change (if applicable), Understands game situations, Demonstrates knowledge of rules.
- **Play Away From the Puck:** Pass option for teammate, Supports puck carrier, Back-checks with intensity, Fore-checks with intensity, Covers/positions self defensively, Positions to become scoring threat, Spatial awareness
- **Play Around the Puck:** Wins foot races to the puck, Wins possession battles, Maintains control of puck, Makes smart plays with the puck, Clears puck from defensive areas, Moves puck to scoring areas, Advances puck up-ice.
- **Hustle/Competes:** Exits/come back to player bench hard, Sets play tempo during shift, Out-skates others, Skates with purpose, Quickly gets up off ice, Quickly changes direction, Consistent effort for entire game
- **Teamwork & Sportsmanship:** Communicates with line mates/partners/goalie, Moves puck to teammates willingly, Positive leadership by example, Demonstrates sportsmanship before/during/after game, Encourages/motivates teammates, Shows only positive emotion, Supports coaches and officials decisions.
- **Skills:** One of the most important skills athletes need to demonstrate at tryouts is skating. Players should be able to show they can start, stop, turn, and crossover. Other skills athletes will need to execute are puck control, passing, receiving, and shooting. Performing offensive and defensive tactics should also be tested. Each association will weigh various skills differently – but the key is to have a consistent scoring system in place, so each player is being evaluated on the same criteria.
- **Attitude:** It’s not all about skills during tryouts. Players also need to work hard, treat others with respect, show that they are coachable and are a good teammate.



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- **Preparedness:** Athletes need to demonstrate they came to tryouts ready to go. This can include showing up on time with the right equipment.
- **Following directions:** Coaches need players who can follow instructions. Athletes need to demonstrate they can perform the drill by paying attention and executing it correctly.



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## Day 3: Team Selection

The Tryout Team Selection process will commence on Day 3. All 5 evaluators plus necessary Hockey Operations/Development committee members and MYHA Board representative(s) will be present to observe a fair Team Selection process.

Each team will have a target number of players communicated prior to tryouts. Depending on the results of the tryout score, is it possible that each team size may change by +/- 1 player to ensure players of similar ability can be placed on the correct team.

The goal of the selection process is to place each player on the proper team based on their demonstrated ability to play a game of hockey at a given level during the tryout. The decision must be unanimously agreed by all 5 evaluators in the room.

### Team Select Process:

- 1) The Tryout admin will provide each Evaluator's results from Day 2 in Team Genius viewable to everyone.
- 2) Any player that is unanimously scored by all 5 evaluators on either the "A", "B", or the "C" team will be locked into that team. No further discussion is required.



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Each player with mixed rankings will require further discussion to accurately place them on a team, starting with the “A” team.

- 3) The admin will call the pinny numbers of the players with at least 1 “A” vote, and comment on the number of roster spots still needing to be filled. For example: if 6 players are locked on the “A” team and the team size projection is 10, then the number of spots to fill on the “A” team is 4. Each evaluator must now adequately defend why they added that player to their “A” team selection.
- 4) To fill the remaining spots, the tryout admin will facilitate the discussion among the evaluators to select each roster spot, one spot at a time until the roster is full. The evaluator(s) that scored a player on a lower team will need to convince the other evaluators based on their observations why they should be on a lower team, and vice versa for the evaluators already scoring them on the “A” team. The facilitator's job is to ensure that a healthy dialogue from each evaluator is heard.
  - a. The facilitator then calls for a vote for the next open team slot and asks for a player to be nominated and seconded. Usually, the next most obvious candidate based on initial tryout scoring.
  - b. All evaluators then vote on filling that spot with that specific player. For example: the facilitator will say “Do you vote in favor of player White #15, to be selected as the 6<sup>th</sup> player on the “A” team.”
  - c. If the vote isn’t unanimous more discussion is allowed between evaluators, and the process restarts with another nomination from any evaluator.
  - d. In the event a unanimous vote cannot be easily concluded, the evaluators may be provided with additional information on the bubble players in question by the tryout admin. Any relevant objective information may be provided including previous team/level played last year at MYHA, scores from MYHA’s NSST skill assessments. No personal information or experiences should ever be shared with the evaluators.
- 5) The process restarts and continues for every remaining open slot on the team.
- 6) After all spots on the “A” team are unanimously agreed, the same process is conducted for selecting the “B” team among remaining players that are not already locked on the “C” team. The “C” team will be the “C” locked players and the remaining players not on “A” or “B”

## Goalie Selection:

- 1) Goalies Selection will follow a similar procedure as the Team Selection with only the 2 goalie evaluators discussing the goalie placement at each level.
- 2) If there are more goalies at tryouts than teams, the goalie evaluators will be provided guidance from Hockey Development on which teams to place more than one goalie.
- 3) The evaluators will evaluate each goalie on Day 1 during the drill and game play, then again on Day 2 during the simulated game.
- 4) The evaluators will evaluate goalie game play based on the following criteria each day.



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## **Goalie Tryout Evaluation Criteria:**

Stance: Balance (laterally and forward/backward) and Mechanics (body and equipment positioning) when the goalie is static or moving.

Mobility: Skating (sculling in the crease as well as full out skating) and Movement Techniques (T-push, shuffle) when repositioning.

Positioning: Center Line on Puck, Depth Adjustments, Squareness to Puck, and Post Mechanics (static post sets and dynamic post to post movements)

Save Techniques: Proper save Selection, Execution and Rebound Control

Game Situations: Goaltender's ability to Read & React to real game dynamic plays, Recovery techniques to facilitate repositioning and Body Balance to ensure maximum net coverage and efficient recoveries.

## **On-Ice Plan**

### **Day 1**

Day 1 (Monday):

- 1) Warm-up skaters and goalies like a standard game (5 min.)
- 2) Dark and light teams will each split in half.
- 3) Cross ice mini games 3v3 (buzzer sounds for 1 minute shifts)
  - a. Goalies on one end, pond nets on other
  - b. Teams will play two 20 minute games (1 game against goalies, 1 with pond nets)

After this tryout the evaluators will rank players and we will rebalance the teams by their night 1 evaluation.

Day 2 (Tuesday):

- 1) Warm-up (5 min.)
- 2) Teams split and play 4v4 (20 Minutes) and 5v5 (20 Minutes) full ice. (2 Minute buzzer sounds)



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Day 3 (Wednesday): Evaluators will deliberate and make final roster adjustments for final day of tryouts

Day 4 (Thursday): Final Day if needed by evaluators.

1) 5 minute warmup

2) 5v5 Full ice Game. (2 minute buzzer sounds)



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## MYHA Tryout Parent Guidelines

MYHA parents will be allowed to watch tryouts this year. This change is being made to provide more transparency to the tryout process. To make this possible we will need to follow the rules listed below. If any issues arise by opening up tryouts we will go back to a closed tryout process immediately. Please do your part to ensure everyone has the ability to watch the tryout process!

- To attend tryouts you must be a parent or guardian of a skater on the ice.
- NO children or siblings will be allowed in the rink.
- Those viewing the tryouts will be required to sit in a designated section of the bleachers or community room viewing area.
- You must remain sitting in the bleachers at all times. Once you enter you may not leave until the tryout is over. This is to limit any distraction to the skaters.
- You may not enter the rink area after tryouts have started. Be on time!
- Standing on or by the boards at any time is NOT allowed.
- Cheering or communicating with the skaters of any kind is NOT allowed.
- Do not communicate with the evaluators before, during or after the tryouts.
- No cell phone use allowed.
- Live Barn will be available if you prefer not to watch in person
- Motioning or directing skaters of any kind is NOT allowed.
- Monitors will be in place. If the above guidelines are not followed you will be asked to leave the building immediately. This will result in the remainder of tryouts being closed for everyone.

## MYHA Tryout Results

Tryout results will be reviewed with the MYHA board before being posted. The tryout results will be posted in a timely manner and any delays will be communicated to the association.



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## **MYHA Tryout Concerns**

If you have any concerns or comments regarding tryouts you must follow the process below before your concerns will be addressed. Any concerns that are not expressed using the process below will not be addressed and will be considered invalid.

1. Send an email to [bahrc@my.uwstout.edu](mailto:bahrc@my.uwstout.edu) within 48 hours of team posting.
2. State your concerns with as much detail as possible and any supporting documentation.
3. Tryout admin will review the email and reply within 48 hours. If a meeting is deemed necessary the tryout admin will schedule and facilitate an in person meeting with the Director of Hockey Operations/Development, the MYHA President and the Tryout Admin.

## **Unable to Attend Tryouts Due to Illness, Injury or other Conflict**

Please refer to policy **3.20 Team Classification and Team Splits**