

# OYHA Player Evaluation Process

Applies to Squirts, PeeWees, Bantams, and Girls 10U, 12U, and 14U only. Mite evaluations and Goalie evaluations are separate processes.

## Goals of the Player Evaluation Process

- To evaluate and place each player on a team based on demonstrated skill and knowledge of the game of ice hockey.
- To place players of like skills together so they can be effectively develop together.
- To continue to monitor player develop during the hockey season and provide feedback to players that ensures they continue to develop their skills and enjoyment of the game.

In summary, the Player Evaluation Process occurs in steps as follows:

Step	Activity	Date
1	On-Ice Evaluations - "Tryouts"	Late September - Early October
2	Team Placement and Start of Season	Early October
3	First Month Player Evaluation and Team Adjustments	Early November
4	Final Team Placement	Early December
5	Mid-Season Evaluation	Early January
6	End of Season Evaluation	Late February

## Step 1 - On Ice Evaluations (Try-Outs)

### Dry-Run Night

Evaluations will begin informally with a "dry-run" night no more than two weeks prior to the start of formal tryouts. This dry-run session allows on-ice coaches and evaluators to pilot any new procedures and on-ice drills. Minor refinements to the new procedures and drills can be in place before the first player steps on the ice. **HDC members, Evaluators and On-Ice Coaches must attend the dry-run session.** Dry-run night drills will be executed by volunteer high school players, OYHA coaches, or other volunteers identified by the HDC.

### Formal Evaluations

Formal evaluations will occur over a one week period which typically begins the last Sunday in September. Try-outs are grouped by USA Hockey age levels and are comprised of up to three (3) nights for each age level.

**Players not interested in trying out for an A or B teams should communicate their interest in being assigned to a C team via email to [OYHAHDC@gmail.com](mailto:OYHAHDC@gmail.com) at least two nights before try-outs begin.**

On-ice sessions will be targeted to be less 36 players in any one session whenever possible. This will allow evaluators to focus more on each players per session. Squirt and PeeWee registration numbers typically far exceed 50 players. As a result, Night 1 tryouts for Squirts and PeeWees players will be divided into two back-to-back sessions. The HDC will use player registration data, remove those players who do not intend to tryout for A or B teams, and then apply the RANDOM function in Excel to generate the Session 1 and Session 2 assignments. The Session 1 and Session 2 assignments for Squirts and PeeWees are then posted on the OYHA website the night before try-outs. A reminder email will also go out to all parents no later than the night before tryouts to get your Session 1 and Session 2 assignment. Bantam and girls evaluations registration number do not typically exceed 30 per age group. Overall try-outs schedule will look similar to the table below:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Squirt Session 1 of 2 (90 minutes)						
Squirt Session 2 of 2 (90 minutes)						Girls 10U - Night 3 (60 minutes)
PeeWee Session 1 of 2 (90 minutes)		Squirt - Night 2 (75 minutes)	Girls 10U - Night 2 (60 minutes)	Squirt - Night 3 (60 minutes)		Girls 14U - Night 3 (60 minutes)
PeeWee Session 2 of 2 (90 minutes)	Girls 10U (90 minutes)	PeeWee - Night 2 (75 minutes)	Girls 12U - Night 2 (60 minutes)	PeeWee - Night 3 (60 minutes)	Girls 12U - Night 3 (60 minutes)	Squirt Blue/Squirt Green (60 minutes)
Bantam (90 minutes)	Girls 12U (90 minutes)	Bantam - Night 2 (75 minutes)	Girls 14U (60 minutes)	Bantam - Night 3 (60 minutes)	Girls 14U - Night 2 (60 minutes)	PeeWee Blue/PeeWee Green (60 minutes)

### Co-Ed / Boys Try-out Format

- Night 1
  - Goal: Identify the top players at each level to return on Night 2
    - Squirts and PeeWee - Top 30 - 36 players
    - Bantams - All registered
    - Players not returning for Night 2 will be assigned to a C-team
  - 90 minute duration for each session - 50% more time that previously
    - ~30 minutes of skating
    - ~30 minutes of drills
    - ~30 minutes of scrimmage
  - Scoring from Night 1 compiled and requests to have players return for Night 2 to posted to OYHA website by 10:00pm Sunday.
  - Score sheets from Night 1 are returned to same Evaluators for Night 2 as reference.
- Night 2
  - Goal: Identify the middle 20 - 30 players per session return on Night 3
    - Only bubble A and B players for final assignment on Night 3

- 75 minute duration for each session
  - Drills remain the same from Night 1
  - ~20 minutes of skating
  - ~20 minutes of drills
  - ~35 minutes of scrimmage
- HDC will create initial coach assignments
- Scoring from Night 2 compiled and requests to have players return for Night 3 to posted to OYHA website by 10:00pm Wednesday night.
- Night 3
  - Goal: Finalize assignment to A and B team assignments
  - 60 minute duration for each session
    - Drills are generally the same with potential to eliminate, adjust or insert an alternate drill if necessary to focus on a particular skill.
    - Adjustments to drills can be requested by the Evaluators.
    - ~20 minutes of skating
    - ~20 minutes of drills
    - ~20 minutes of scrimmage
  - Final team and coach assignments generated - See Rosters section below
- C-Evals
  - Goal: Create two (or three) skill balanced C-teams
    - Squirt and PeeWee only

### **Girls 10U, 12U, and 14U Try-Out Format**

- Night 1, 2, and 3 evaluations
  - Goal: Finalize assignment to A and B teams
    - 90, 60, 60 minute sessions due to smaller numbers of players
  - Same drills and evaluation sheets as co-ed/boys
  - Final players and coach assignments to teams by night 3

### **Rosters**

- All team rosters posted to OYHA website by 10:00pm Sunday night.
- Formalize that rosters for A and B teams will be at least one player below target size to allow for a potential player move
  - Ongoing player evaluations and potential for players adjustments below

### **Standard Evaluators**

Evaluators are ideally comprised of three (3) “one-level up” coaches and one (1) non-coach evaluator.

- High school, college, or any USA Hockey Level 4 coach evaluates Bantams
- Bantam coaches evaluate PeeWee’s
- PeeWee coaches evaluate Squirt’s

At least one (1) “A-level” or USA Hockey Level 3 coach at each PeeWee and Squirt session whenever possible. Evaluators will use a standardized Evaluation template developed by the HDC. This evaluation sheet format will be used throughout the entire season for consistency.

## Bench Coach Evaluation

A bench coach evaluation sheet will also be employed. The bench coach evaluation sheet will only contain two columns - a plus(+) column and a minus (-) column. A player's number is added to the bench coach evaluation sheet only if they demonstrate standout sportsmanship behaviors (either positive or negative).

- Behavior that may generate a (+):
  - Communicating with other participants in a positive and encouraging manner
- Behavior that may generate a (-):
  - Verbal or physical abuse of any other person involved in try-outs.
  - Repeated unsportsmanship behavior like bench line jumping, complaining about position assignments during scrimmages, or pushing and shoving on the bench.
  - Low effort in scrimmages - this should also be noticed by the evaluators, but reinforces on ice evaluators observations.

## Drills, Coaches, and Volunteers

The HDC Try-Out and Curriculum sub-group will collaborate to select the drills and scrimmage formats for on-ice tryouts. Additionally:

- Tryout drills are standardized for all levels and are selected from our own OYHA Player Development Curriculum. The purpose of each drill and the specific skills are clearly identified for the evaluators.
- The number of On-Ice coaches will be determined by the number of on-ice drills
  - For example: 4 drills require 5 coaches
    - 4 coaches to run drills
    - 1 lead/clock coach to run the overall practice plan
- Goalie evaluation only occurs during the scrimmage portion of the skater try-outs.
  - A goalie coordinator coach is allowed on the ice to make sure goalies are being effectively and correctly utilized. However, no on-ice goalie coaching can disrupt the flow of drills.

The HDC will strive to schedule more volunteers than required in case an evaluator has a family or work emergency and can't attend one night. Targeting the following for each session:

- 2 check-in desk
- 5 evaluators (one extra)
- 5 on ice coaches
- 2 bench coaches
- 4 drill demonstrators - First night only for each age group
- 2 locker room coaches (can be evaluators)
- 2 HDC members (back up)

## Step 2 - Team Placement and Start of Season

### Timeline Immediately After Try-Outs

- Sunday by 10:00pm
  - All team rosters posted to OYHA website
  - Coaches receive their team roster and parent/player contact
- Monday by 3:00pm

- Welcome team email from head coach so parents and players know which practices to attend.
- Wednesday
  - First practices begin

## Step 3 - Practices Begin and Coaches Closely Monitor Team Assignments For One Month

### Practices Begin the Wednesday After Try-Outs End

- Coaches and HDC members monitor player development through level reps and monitoring practices
- If a player is quickly developing and far exceeding the level of the remainder of the team that coach or HDC rep communicates with the appropriate HDC level rep.
- **By October 31st**
  - recommendations for player moves are due to the HDC level rep

## Step 4 - Final Team Placement

### Team Assignment Adjustments and Roster's Frozen

- **By October 31st**
  - HDC level rep collects all coach recommendations for players to move to A or B team.
  - HDC level rep communicates with HDC to recommend a player move up.
    - If there are multiple player recommendations the level rep meets with HDC and affected coaches to determine the best course of action for the players in question.
- **By November 15th**
  - Player reassignment must be completed to allow team comradery to develop before tournament and playdowns.
- **By December 1st**
  - Rosters are now effectively frozen for those players from the standard player evaluation process.
    - Any other special circumstances are not covered by this procedure recommendation.

## Step 5 - Mid-Season Evaluation

In early January, coaches will complete a mid-season evaluation sheet which is based on the try-out evaluation template and provide it to players during a 10 minute meeting with the player and parents upon request. This will highlight where the player must continue to focus on development for the remainder of the season.

## Step 6 - End of Season Evaluation

In late February or early March, coaches will complete an end of season evaluation sheet which is based on the try-out evaluation template and provide it to players during a 10 minute meeting with the player and parents upon request. This will highlight where the player must continue to focus on development during the off-season in preparation for the next season.