

## **DMHA - PLAYER EVALUATION & SELECTION PROGRAM**

### **JRIP/SRIP/TYKE DIVISIONS**

Player evaluation can be a difficult task for our Minor Hockey Association to deal with, but we believe it can also be the foundation for our association to develop and build upon. In most cases player evaluation is used to place players onto teams.

It is important to understand that DMHA does not use player evaluations as a tool for coaches to develop players based on their Individual strengths and weaknesses.

Placing players on teams is one thing, but what we do with those players once the teams are formed is another. In our Association we typically only have enough players for one or two teams in each age category, thus tiering or movement of players to a higher division occurs.

DMHA bases its Player Evaluation Program off of the Hockey Canada Development Program to educate parents, and coaches, on the importance of developing skills.

Delhi Minor Hockey Associations there are 3 types of evaluations.

- 1) Evaluations during pre-season for selection on to teams. (Tiered or Grouped)
- 2) Evaluations mid season for those that are working to move to the age group/division.
- 3) Evaluations during and at the end of the season as a post season report card

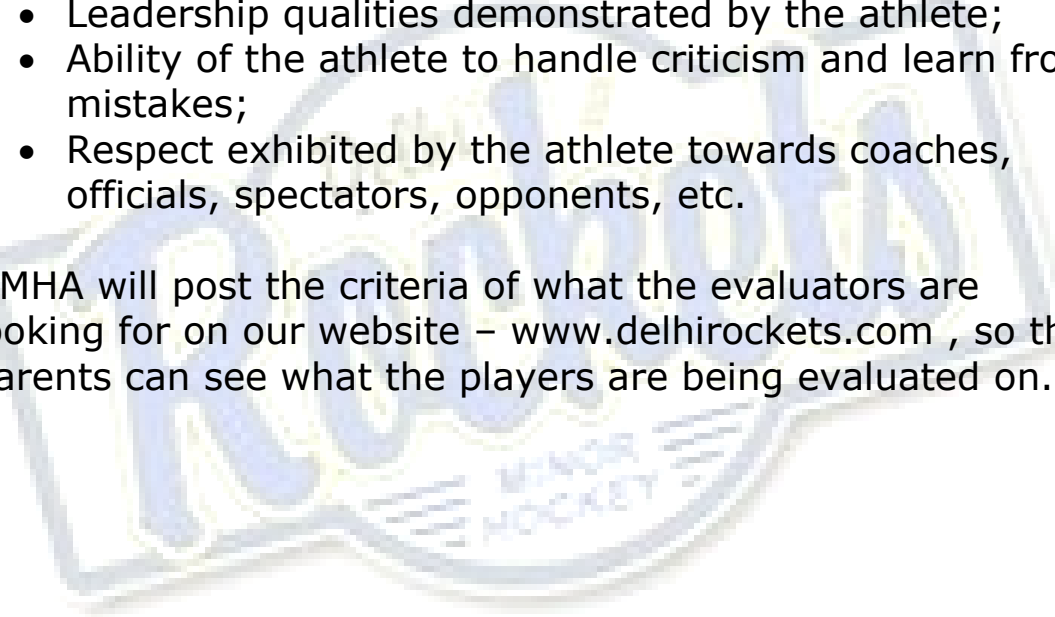
All evaluations are important. The evaluations done at the start of the season will place the kids on to teams, but the information will also be given to coaches so that they can

see what the strengths and weaknesses of those players are.

Evaluation criteria is objective, steps will be taken to incorporate basic principles to guide the selection panel. For example, one criterion for selection to a team might be 'attitude'. Rather than leaving it up to a coach or selection panel to assess the attitude of an athlete, to provide more structured measures or indicators of attitude, such as:

- Willingness of the athlete to take instruction and direction;
- Leadership qualities demonstrated by the athlete;
- Ability of the athlete to handle criticism and learn from mistakes;
- Respect exhibited by the athlete towards coaches, officials, spectators, opponents, etc.

DMHA will post the criteria of what the evaluators are looking for on our website – [www.delhirockets.com](http://www.delhirockets.com) , so that parents can see what the players are being evaluated on.



## **OBJECTIVES OF DMHA PLAYER EVALUATION PROGRAM**

- To provide a fair and impartial assessment of a player's total hockey skills during the skating and scrimmage sessions
- To ensure that players have a reasonable 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 coaches with the opportunity and flexibility to build a team based in part on their own coaching philosophy 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 develop players

## **TOP 10 QUESTIONS ON PLAYER EVALUATION**

### **I. When are the player evaluation sessions?**

DMHA will begin evaluations for player's movements after the first 2 practices sessions.

### **II. How many evaluation sessions will there be?**

DMHA plan to hold 2 evaluations for players to have opportunities that the player will have to be assessed.

### **III. What is being evaluated?**

Please Refer to the section on Player Selection criteria for more information on specific skills, tactics and behaviours that are being evaluated.

### **IV. Who will do the evaluations?**

There are 3 key groups involved in the evaluations:

- On-ice coaches to take players through the session
- Off-ice evaluators who will be responsible to evaluate players on the ice during the time allotted. There may be on-ice evaluators depending on the particular community situation.
- Off-ice administrators who will be responsible for tracking evaluations, contacting parents and players and scheduling sessions.

### **V. What should my son/daughter wear to the evaluation?**

Full equipment is always mandatory. This includes:

- ◆ Protective cup
- ◆ Shin pads
- ◆ Hockey pants
- ◆ Shoulder pads
- ◆ Elbow pads
- ◆ Skates
- ◆ Hockey gloves
- ◆ Hockey stick
- ◆ CSA approved helmet and full shield

- ◆ Neck guard and mouth guard

## **VI. How are the players notified of their standing within the process?**

Players will be informed by the Off-ice administrators who are responsible for tracking evaluations, contacting parents and players and scheduling sessions. Players will not be informed at the rink, but by the off-ice administrator via email. Depending on the age of the player it is recommended that the administrator speak to the parent directly.

## **VII. Will the player be evaluated in a skill and game environment?**

In order to give each and every player a fair opportunity to exhibit the range of skills that they possess they will be evaluated in a mini game and skill environment. At the younger age levels a greater emphasis will be placed on the evaluation of skills - as the players get older the game or scrimmage sessions will have a greater overall impact on the player's placement within the minor hockey program.

## **VIII. What happens after the evaluation sessions?**

Upon the completion of evaluations players will be contacted by the coach of their team. The coach will outline:

- ◆ Practice schedule
- ◆ Game schedule
- ◆ Introduction of other coaches
- ◆ Setting of first meeting with parents and players

## **IX. How soon after evaluations does the season start?**

Once the evaluation process is completed, players and parents notified of the evaluations and the potential start dates for the season depending on which team the player is placed on.

**X. How will the evaluation information be used?**

The player evaluation information is used as a starting point for a season of development. If a coach understands why he or she has the team they have been given they will be better able to work on the skills required for that player to become more proficient.



## PLAYER SELECTION CRITERIA

**The following is a reference that will be provided to evaluators prior to the player selection process. An age specific skill list can be found on the following pages.**

### **General Overview of the Skills to Play the Game**

**Skating:** Acceleration, speed, mobility, agility, balance, stride, crossovers, pivots, and acceleration out of turns, quick feet, controlled skating, and change of pace.

- Can the players perform the basic forward and backward stride?
- Are the players knees well bent with the back slightly forward and the head up, or is the player hunched over, bending at the waist with little knee bend?
- Good skaters will use long strides with a complete recovery of the stride leg before striding with the other leg. Their strides will look very smooth and appear not to require much effort to move around the ice?
- Does the player look smooth when they skate or do they appear off balance?
- Can the player turn in both directions with little trouble or do they struggle to turn in one or both directions?
- Can the player stop in both directions? Younger players will often have trouble stopping in one direction?
- Can the player keep up with the play or do they struggle to stay with the other players on the ice?

**Passing:** Passing, receiving, passing choices, on backhand, unselfish with the puck, presents a good target, receives and retains with control, touch passing.

- Can the player pass the puck to its intended target with minimal effort?
- Can the player make an accurate pass to a moving target?

- Can the player receive a pass on their backhand or do they tend to shift their body to receive the pass on the forehand?
- Can the player pass the puck off of the backhand with some speed and accuracy?
- Does the player call for the puck vs. banging their stick on the ice or saying nothing at all?
- Does the player passing the puck make eye contact with the intended receiver or do they just pass the puck blindly?
- Can the player execute a saucer pass over sticks and other obstacles?
- Can the player pass the puck off of the boards to another player?

**Puck Control:** Head ups, smooth and quiet, good hands, protection, in small spaces, in traffic.

- Does the player have the basic skills to execute a forehand pass?
- When the player passes the puck do they slap at it or is the motion smooth with the player following through to the intended target?
- Does the player appear to be comfortable handling the puck while skating or do they appear to fight the puck and have trouble skating with some speed while handling it?
- Can the player keep his/her head up while carrying the puck?
- Can they execute dekes and fakes with the puck? Can't they stop quickly or change directions while handling the puck?
- Can the player continue to handle the puck while in traffic and under pressure?
- Does the player get pushed or checked off the puck easily?



**Shooting:** Power, accuracy, quick release, can shoot in motion, goal scorer, rebound control, variety of shots.

- Can the player execute the technique of a wrist shot and backhand?
- Does the player follow through to the target on all shots?
- Can the player raise the puck?
- Is the puck shot with some velocity?
- Does the puck sit flat in the air or does it wobble?
- Can the player execute a one-time shot?
- Is the player accurate when shooting?

**Positional Play:** Ability to see the play developing both offensively and defensively and moves to support, judgment, anticipation, understands systems, disciplined.

- Does the player seem to understand where he/she are to play on the ice?
- Do they support the puck in defensive and offensive situations?
- Does the player show patience or do they tend to panic when pressured?
- Do they protect the mid lane and force opposing players inside out?
- Can the player angle another player off of the puck?
- Does the player force the play or do they wait too long?

**Checking Concept:** on angling, good body position with balance and control, defensive side position, aggressive checker, strength, taking checks.

- Can the player execute basic stick and body checks?
- Does the player check properly with their hands down or do they get their arms up to give a check?
- Can the player receive a check properly, not turning their back and staying close to the boards?

- Can the player check and opposing player and pin them on the boards?
- Does the player shy away from other players?

Players Evaluation Score sheet will be reviewed with coaches, evaluators and based on highest ranking and overall evaluation criteria, Parents will be contacted on next steps.

DMHA Player movement can happen 3 ways:

- Player eligible to move up to the next highest level
- Player to continue in the age appropriate program
- Player to move to the lower level, to continue to develop skills and further evaluation will take place as the season progresses.

**Evaluators can print off the Evaluation Rating Sheet, Drill plans on the following page for easy reference during the Evaluation sessions.**

**[https://delhirockets.com/Categories/1284/Libraries/4261/Player\\_Evaluation\\_and\\_Selection\\_Program/](https://delhirockets.com/Categories/1284/Libraries/4261/Player_Evaluation_and_Selection_Program/)**