



DRAFTING STRATEGY PROCESS

INTRODUCTION:

PRAA sports hosting drafts must complete ratings at the end of each season. Ratings and rankings are essential for fairness of recreational and travel team setup, and should be treated with utmost importance and objectiveness. Every team must supply the ratings and rankings (if applicable) to Commissioners and Fairness Committee at close of the season. Definitions are provided below:

Player Ratings:

The assessment of a player's talent and acumen are based on the physical skills development for that sport, performance/effort in both practices and games, as well as meeting the mental demands of the sport. Each sport's ratings template is geared towards the needs of the sport, and each template should properly distinguish the players based on a variety of skills and attributes. Players will have a point value assigned to their rating (total points, or A/B/C average for grades 2 and under).

Best practice suggests that all coaches and commissioner(s) should meet and agree on the ratings, across each participation level, to ensure best efforts for consistency and accuracy. Once ratings are aggregated, the players should be listed, and then reviewed to make sure that the overall order of players is accurate and subjective, according to the "eye ball test", with appropriate discrepancies resolved and adjustments made, if necessary.

Player Rankings (applicable for travel team selection): The ordered list of Player Ratings across each participation level are used for the purposes of selecting an objective travel team, based on the number of players needed. This process also allows previously uninvited travel players to improve and make the list of invited players in subsequent years. Travel teams shall be selected based upon the number of players outlined in the Travel Committee, with extra teams created if appropriate number of players (and coaches) have shown interest in travel team competition. *Note: some sports may choose to do a tryout format and the player ratings and rankings become supplementary.*

Both the Player Ratings and Player Rankings (Travel team selection) shall be performed by all coaches in a face-to-face meeting to ensure fairness and consistency across each participation level.

Player ratings and Rankings are highly confidential, and should not be distributed, nor discussed, with any outside parties, including assistant coaches, parents or players.

RECREATIONAL PLAYER SELECTION PROCESS:

Attendees: player drafts shall always be attended by either the league commissioner or a representative of the Fairness Committee.

Pre-Draft Day

- Commissioners or designees will prepare a sorted list of ratings and rankings from prior year.
- Copies shall be distributed to all coaches just prior to the draft, for reference purposes only (printed paper only - digital distribution not allowed).

Draft Day

- Coaches select a random draft order out of a hat. If there are 4 coaches, then there will be a random selection of the draft order 1 – 4. If there are 3 coaches, then the draft order will be 1 – 3, and so on.
- The Commissioners and/or Fairness Committee members will explain the rules of the draft.

Round #1

Example assumes 4 teams in the draft. If there are 3 teams then only 3 draft picks will exist in all rounds. If the team is comprised of 2 grades, e.g. 3rd / 4th grade, then higher grade players are picked first.

- The coach with #1 drafting spot will select a player from the top 4 players available. If his or her child is within the 4-player window, he or she must pick their own child.
- Then the coach with #2 draft spot will select a player from the next top 4 players. Note: the group of 4 players is a moving group to always give coaches the option of 4. Same rule with the child of the coach. If the coach's child is within the 4, then he /she has to pick their own child.
- Then the coach with #3 draft pick will select a player from the next top 4 players. Same rule will apply for coach's child.
- Then the coach with #4 draft pick will select a player from the next top 4 players. Same rule will apply for coach's child.

Caveat : *If the ratings show same exact ratings between players (e.g. A, B or C) then the scope of selection should be expanded within reason.*

Round #2 (and beyond):

- The coach with the lowest point total (cumulative of each drafted player's point/grade total) will start each subsequent round followed in ascending order (lowest to highest)

Alternative Drafting Process:

If the prior year ratings are non-numerical and a cumulative point/grade cannot be determined, rotating the draft order between coaches should be used to ensure fairness.

Post Draft:

Adjustments to rosters can be made, within reason, based on need for assistant coaches or if there is a heavy weighting towards one school over another, etc. The goal is for the teams to remain as even as possible, while respecting the players. For example, at the younger ages having a balanced school breakdown or close friends on a team will make the experience more enjoyable to the players. In later years, this drafting strategy is less important.