



Boys & Girls Traveling Tryouts 2023 - 2024

Updated 7/2023

2022-23 Tryout Changes that RAHA will continue in 2023-24

- Five RAHA coach evaluators at each level.
 - The lowest coach evaluator score will be dropped each day of coach evaluation scoring.
- Evaluator scores are weighted 60% outside evaluators and 40% RAHA coach evaluators.
- Day 1 Skills sessions are ONLY evaluated by outside evaluators. Scores from Day 1 will be used to determine Day 2 pools.
 - Day 1 sessions may not last the full hour.
- All potential age level coaches can attend Day 4 of tryouts.
- Pools will be shuffled after each tryout session.

New Tryout Changes in 2023-24

- Day 2 sessions at all levels will be 3v3 and 5v5
 - 3v3 is cross-ice
 - 5v5 is full ice
- Replaced one skating drill with one with a drill that focuses on passing

General Notes

- Players should arrive 30-45 minutes prior to their session and must be ready to get on the ice 15 minutes prior to the start time.
- Players must check-in using their tryout jersey number before every session, inside the main RCC arena entrance, or risk being marked absent.
- Players that have not provided a DIBs check will NOT be allowed on the ice for tryouts.
- No evaluator/coach scores or comments will be given to the parents after the tryout process is complete.
- It is your responsibility to monitor the RAHA website and understand which pool session you must attend each day during tryouts.

Tryout Jerseys, Socks and Equipment

Tryout jerseys will be handed out at the parent meeting, prior to tryouts. Each player receives a reversible tryout jersey to be used for all tryout sessions. Jerseys are to be placed in a bag/box at RCC after the Day 4 session. Parents will be charged if the tryout jersey is not returned. Your season socks will also be handed out at the parent meeting and are **required** during tryouts.

Players must wear a navy-colored helmet with NO IDENTIFYING TEAM MARKINGS or STICKERS (AAA, team names, etc.).

Wear all standard hockey equipment, including mouth guards.

Boys Tryout Pools (girl's numbers don't require more than one pool)

All skaters are placed in random pools for the Day 1 Skills session. Pool assignments are posted to the RAHA website a couple days prior to the first session.

Scores from sessions are used for subsequent pool assignments at each level. The tryout facilitator re-pools the players after Sessions 1, 2 and 3.

Each player has the opportunity to move up/down within tiers based on each day's session evaluation – **therefore each and every session matters.**

Updated pools will be posted to the website as soon as they become available. It is your responsibility to monitor the RAHA website and understand which pool you are assigned.

Girls Tryout Jersey Assignments

All skaters are placed in random jersey colors for the Day 1 Skills session.

Scores from sessions are used for subsequent jersey color assignments at each level to create teams for balanced competition.

Squirt/PeeWee/10U/12U/15U

The tryout process is based on registration numbers; therefore, this process may change if the actual number of players changes.

- **Day 1: Skills Only** (33.33% of total evaluation score)
 - Session consists of 3 drills designed to grade a player's skating (forward and backwards), shooting, & puck skills
 - Goalie sessions consist of 3 drills designed to grade a goalie's movement, angles, rebound control, and puck stopping
- **Day 2: 3x3 and 5x5 Scrimmage** (33.33% of total evaluation score)
 - Skaters are systematically rotated through all positions
 - 3x3 teams are selected at random based on assigned jersey color
 - 3x3 is cross-ice for half of the hour
 - 5x5 is full ice for half of the hour
- **Day 3: 5x5 Scrimmage** (33.33% of total evaluation score)
 - Skaters are systematically rotated through all positions
- **Day 4: Coach Led** (not evaluated)
 - Coaches determine on-ice activities

Bantam

The tryout process is based on registration numbers; therefore, this process may change if the actual number of players changes.

- **Day 1: Skills Only** (33.33% of total evaluation score)
 - Session consists of 3 drills designed to grade a player's skating (forward and backwards), shooting, & puck skills
 - Goalie sessions consist of 3 drills designed to grade a goalie's movement, angles, rebound control, and puck stopping
- **Day 2: 3x3 and 5x5 Scrimmage** (33.33% of total evaluation score)
 - Skaters are systematically rotated through all positions
 - 3x3 teams are selected at random based on assigned jersey color
 - 3x3 is cross-ice for half of the hour (no checking)
 - 5x5 is full ice for half of the hour (checking allowed)
- **Day 3: 5x5 Scrimmage** (33.33% of total evaluation score)
 - Skaters are systematically rotated through all positions
 - Checking is allowed
- **Day 4: Coach Led** (not evaluated)
 - Coaches determine on-ice activities
 - Checking is allowed

Goalies

Goalies attend a separate goaltender's skill session (Day 1) for evaluation. Goalies are scored based on the following skills: Movement, Angles, Rebound Control, and Puck Stopping. Goalies also attend the skater's skills session and are evaluated. The scores from Day 1 Goalies only skills are combined with Day 1 skaters to make up the first 33.33% of the overall score. Goalies are assigned to pools, just like skaters, for the remaining tryout sessions.

- Goalies changing nets during 5v5 scrimmages will be done in this order:
 - If 2 goalies in the pool, the goalies will switch nets halfway through the session to get half the time in each net, facing each team.
 - If 3 goalies in the pool, the goalies will switch nets every 5 whistles. The rotation for the goalies will be Goal A, Goal B, and rest.
 - If 4 goalies in the pool, 2 goalies will be assigned to each team and switch every 5 whistles. At the halfway point, the goalie duos will switch nets to get half the time in each net. They will continue to follow the change every 5 whistles.

ALL Tryouts

- At the end of each session, players may stay in the same tier, move up or move down, based on the most recent session's performance.
- Subsequent session assignments will be posted to the RAHA website the night before the scheduled session.
- It is your responsibility to monitor the RAHA website and understand which pool session you must attend each day during tryouts.

How are players evaluated?

Note: Any sessions missed by a player/goalie will receive the lowest score possible (1) for that session.

During each tryout session, 4 outside evaluators and 5 RAHA coaches will score based on a preset scale, following a common scoring structure.

Evaluators/coaches look for complete players, with strengths balanced across:

- Skills
- Hockey sense, and
- Positive contribution to team play

Scores from each evaluator/coach are recorded and used for subsequent tier assignments and final team selection.

Players are evaluated for negative contributions to play. Inappropriate conduct or penalty situations will result in a decrease in score. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Penalties
- Use of foul language on or off the ice
- Play intended to injure, illegal checks

Parent-Coach evaluators are prohibited from scoring his/her own player and from accessing their player's, or any player's, scores.

How are teams selected?

After the third tryout session (Day 3) is complete, the RAHA Board of Directors meets to determine pick pools which are based on team sizes and finding a natural break/gap in the total evaluation scores. A player must be in the predetermined pick pool on Day 4 to be placed on that team.

Day 4 tryout pools are determined by the pick pools approved by the Board of Directors. Once the pick pool sizes are determined, the potential head coaches are identified. All potential head coaches for the teams within the pick pools attend Day 4 sessions and are given the list of tryout jersey numbers within their pick pool AT THE START OF THE SESSION to observe and assist in their team selection process.

Once a coach is officially selected and notified of their position on a team, he/she goes into a room with the tryout facilitator, registrar and at least two board members, none of which are parents of any skater in the affected age group. The coach will identify tryout jersey numbers that are within the pick pool. In the event there are two teams at any given level (i.e. two Squirt B1 teams), District 8 requires the teams be equally balanced. In this case, both head coaches are in the room at the same time and choose their players by snake draft. This starts with the tryout facilitator choosing a group of players

that are clustered together and the coaches taking turns selecting jersey numbers. This repeats until the teams are filled. After the teams are made, the committee analyzes to ensure they are even based on total accumulative evaluation scores.

How are head coaches selected?

The Coaches Committee evaluates all coaching candidates at each level on experience, reputation and past performance/survey results. The committee brings their coaches' ranking to the board for final vote before tryouts.

A coach's player must fall within the scope of the team in order for that parent to be chosen as head coach of that team. The level's highest ranked coach gets the first option to be head coach.

How will I know what team I'm on?

After team selections are complete, an email will be sent indicating team placements have been posted to the RAHA website. Team assignments are generally posted within **48 hours** of the completion of tryouts.

Please be aware that your first practice can be the very next day following tryouts.

What if I believe a mistake took place?

We understand that the outcome of tryouts might not always be what you had hoped for; however, team selections are final. We are always interested in feedback and suggestions and are looking to continually improve our processes and programs. In the end, everyone will be on a team, will have a chance to develop and enjoy playing this great sport.

Grievances/complaints, related to tryouts, will not be discussed on the phone. All contact regarding grievances/complaints will not be accepted until one week (7 days) after the completion of your level's final tryout session. Every player/parent who wishes to file a grievance, will need to contact the RAHA Vice-President to get a copy of the form. A meeting will be set up, once the form is completed, as we value your feedback.

In any case, you should plan on attending your team practices as scheduled.

What if I have questions about tryouts?

Questions/concerns about the tryout process must go through the RAHA Tryout Facilitator. Do not bring these questions directly to the traveling coaches, coordinators, evaluators, or tryout committee.