

Tryout Schedule

Tryout schedules for all levels above Mites will be posted on the WSPHA website. Tryouts are typically held in October for each age level for both the youth and girl's programs. The Tryout Policy is set forth in this Policy handbook.

Tryout Policy

Independent, non-parent, evaluators will be used to rate all players at all tryouts. The independent evaluators will be disinterested persons that have experience with the hockey level being evaluated. A person may not be an evaluator at a specific level if a family member is participating in the tryout at that level. Skaters will be ranked on the following skills: skating, puck handling, shooting, passing and general hockey sense –both from the standpoint of an individual player and as a team player. The tryout hours will consist of assorted drills as well as scrimmages.

Team Placement Grievances

Grievances resulting from traveling team placement will not be addressed unless they are initiated 24 hours after team are posted.

AA, A and B Traveling Teams

The goal for AA, A and B traveling teams is to have no more than 15 skaters, unless total player numbers dictate otherwise. One or two goalies will also be selected. The actual number of skaters on each team will be at the discretion of the Hockey Development Committee.

For youth and girl's teams at all levels, independent evaluators shall select the AA, A and B pool for each age level. The AA, A and B pool shall consist of up to the top 40 skaters and up to the top 6 goaltenders as rated by the independent evaluators.

Once the AA, A and B pool is selected, the Hockey Development Committee may meet with all or some of the coaching candidates for that particular age level. During this process, the

AA, A and B head coaches may be selected. Along with the Hockey Development Committee, the AA, A and B head coaches may help determine the final team rosters based on the rankings of the independent evaluators.

B2 & C Teams

The B2 & C teams shall be selected from the players not selected for the AA, A or B team. Along with the Hockey Development Committee, the B2 and C head coaches may help determine the final team rosters based on the rankings of the independent evaluators.

Multiple Teams at the Same Designation

Should any one level have more than one team at a specific designation (i.e. two Pee wee B team(s), as decided by the Hockey Development Committee for that level, the teams are to be evenly divided with each team receiving every other player ranked highest after the higher-level team has been selected. For example, players ranked 1st through 15th are on the AA or A team, then B1-Red would get the 16th ranked player, B1-White would get the 17th ranked player and so on. Any exceptions need to be approved by the Hockey Development Committee.

Bantam Move-Up Policy

High school teams and their junior varsity teams are selected after Bantam tryouts.

A high school coach may select a player already playing on a Bantam traveling team. The Bantam coach losing players to high school teams may replace their players from the team the next level down. For example, the "AA" coach losing 2 players may select up to 2 players from the "B" team. The "B" coach may then select up to 2 players from the "C" team. The selection of players moving up under this process must be approved by the Hockey Development Committee.

Players who try-out for Bantams will not be given a waiver to play for Junior Gold/U16.

Goalies

For Pee wees and Bantams, all players trying out for goalie who try out and are selected for a traveling team must play goalie throughout the season. If the overall number of goalies at a given level is insufficient, the coaches and the Hockey Development Committee will decide, together, the number of goalies for each team for that particular level for that season. It is desirable to have two goalies on every team, especially on higher level traveling teams. This is not always possible and team placement of goalies is up to the discretion of the Hockey Development Committee with input from the goalie evaluator(s).

Division Level of Play

The WSPHA will strive to field travelling teams that compete at the highest competitive division level of play as defined and referenced in the Minnesota Hockey Handbook. The Hockey Development Committee will analyze the make-up of each age group to determine the highest level of play for that season.

Players Unable To Tryout

Medical Reasons

Players unable to tryout due to medical reasons must notify the Hockey Development Committee in writing prior to the beginning of tryouts. If a player is unable to complete the tryouts due to medical reasons, the Hockey Development Committee must be notified immediately.

A player must verify her/his medical problems in writing. The Hockey Development Committee will review each situation independently and decide on a placement for the player. Consideration must be given to the following:

1. Ability of player in the past.
2. Consultation with past coaches.
3. Severity of disability/probability of return for the coming season

Non-Medical Reasons

The age level Director(s) will try to accommodate a legitimate scheduling conflict. Notice of conflict must be given at least 48 hours prior to first scheduled tryout session. The age level Director(s) will work with the player and his/her parents to try to accommodate the request, within reason. A conflict with another sport will typically not constitute an excused absence

Player Movement After Tryouts

A player cannot change levels or move between the Youth and Girls program once tryouts have begun. After tryouts, special circumstances may arise that require movement of a player to a higher level or between the Youth and Girls program. These situations are rare and will be evaluated on a case by case basis. They will be decided by the Hockey Development Committee.