

MVIYHA  
Tryout  
Informational  
Meeting

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September 6th, 2023



# Welcome to the 2023-2024 hockey season

- Tryout process in accordance with the MVIYHA Tryout Manual
  - Updated 2022
- **Goal: Transparent, Independent, Fair Evaluation of Players**
  - MVIYHA spends 100's of hours and \$\$\$'s to ensure players are on the right team
  - 2023, ongoing process improvements
  - No in-person viewing – LiveBarn is available
    - Implemented in 2020 due to COVID
    - Keeping due to extraordinary positive impact on players trying out
  - Tryouts run by multiple MVIYHA board members and coaches

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MVIYHA Tryout Director

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# Warm-up Sessions

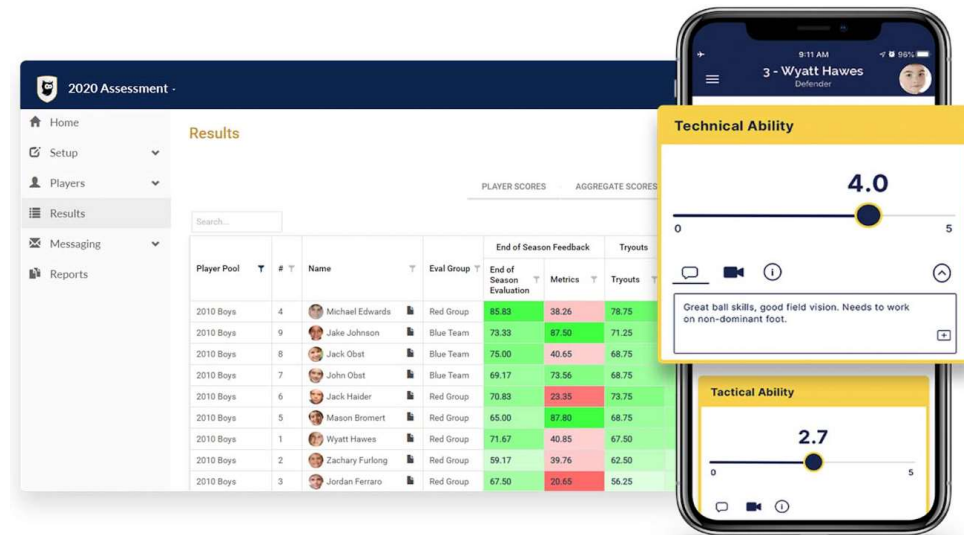
- Three **optional** 60-minute sessions in September, prior to tryouts
- Bantam, PeeWee, Squirt, U12, U10
- Consists of edge-work, drills, small-area games, scrimmage
  - Practice drills that will be used during tryouts
- Cost is included in the Tryout Registration fee
- Sessions are divided by last name, flexibility for Fall sports
- See Tryout page of website for dates, times and level designations



The screenshot shows the website for the Mounds View Irondale Youth Hockey Association. The header includes navigation links: Home, Teams, Tryouts, Tournament Info, Volunteer, Board, Calendar, and More. Below the header, there is a section titled "Tryouts - Check here often!" with a sub-section for "2023 TRYOUT SCHEDULES (CHECK HERE OFTEN FOR CHANGES)". This section lists several tryout schedules for different age groups: 2023 Bantam Warmup and Tryout Schedule (updated 8-29), 2023 PeeWee Warmup and Tryout Schedule (updated 8-29), 2023 Squirt Warmup and Tryout Schedule, 2023 U0U & U2U Girls Warmup and Tryout Schedule, and 2023 U5U MVI & STP Girls Warmup and Tryout Schedule. There are also sections for "2023 MVI BOYS TRYOUT TEAM ROSTERS" and "2023 MVI GIRLS TRYOUT TEAM ROSTERS". Under "WARM-UP GROUPS", there are three groups: Bantam and PeeWee, Squirt, and U12 and U10. Under "WARM-UP SESSIONS", there is information about the schedule and registration. On the right side, there is a section for "PLAYER TRYOUTS" with eligibility requirements and a list of tryout drills: U12 and Bantam Tryout Drill, U12 and PeeWee Tryout Drill, U10 and Squirt Tryout Drill, and MVI/YHA TRYOUT MANUAL.

# 2023 Tryouts: Consistent elements

- Independent evaluation team
- Point scoring system – aggregate scoring used
- Electronic scoring via iPads
  - Jersey color and # only, defense-only position noted
- 1<sup>st</sup> tryout session by last name only (Squirts first 2 sessions)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> tryout session adds previous year scoring to optimize team/drill competitions into ‘Pools’
  - There will be roster movement after 1-2 sessions
- 2-3 additional tryout sessions – roster changes
- Goalie-only sessions
- 13-15 skater AA/A teams
  - Larger roster targeted at older levels
- Pool scrimmages against outside associations (5<sup>th</sup> tryout session) – all levels including girls if possible
  - Bubble analysis during last tryouts/scrimmage – some players may sit
- All tryout dates, groups, and times will be published on the website
  - **Please check the website frequently for schedule changes**
- Player Departure Policy



# 2023 Tryouts: Changes

- New tryout jerseys
  - Reversible, will keep the same number for all tryouts but could switch white/black
  - Trying to match jersey sizes to players based on registration
- 1<sup>st</sup> session will be by alphabet only, then combined with previous year scores for tryout team/pool placement
  - Squirts will have first 2 sessions the same due to limited data from previous year(s)
  - Recognize work done during season and summer
  - Goal is to have 'like-level' players competing against each other sooner
  - Player movements between pools much easier with new jerseys, will happen more frequently
- Girls will be placed across 2, balanced teams based on previous year's scores at 1<sup>st</sup> session due to having only one group
  - May re-balance tryout teams after 1 session



# Scoring Criteria

## Scoring

- Skating
- Passing
- Shooting
- Stick-handling
- Defensive Play
- Offensive Play
- Hockey Sense
- Game Influence

## Hockey Sense, Game Influence will have increased drill focus and weight in later sessions

- Positional awareness
- Support of the puck
- Vision
- Hustle/aggressiveness
- Persistence
- Leadership on the ice
- Attitude
- Back-checking
- Toughness (corners/net)
- Play-making
- Team play
- Sportsmanship
- Game understanding

# Tryout Evaluation Team

## **Independent tryout team panel (4 at every session, 1 for goalies)**

- Include HS coaches from MV and Irondale
- Playing experience: High School, Division III, Division I
- Coaching experience: High School, Elite League, and Division III levels
- PGD and/or MEGA professional training staff for evaluation of goalies

**2023-2024 pre-selected head coaches may be present in later sessions**

# Tryout Scoring: Goaltenders

- In addition to the 4-5 tryouts/scrimmages, goaltenders will attend Premier Goaltender Development (PGD) goalie-only evaluation session
  - Please attend even if your goalie may also play other positions during the season
- Dedicated goalie evaluator(s) during scrimmages and other tryout sessions



# Injuries

In the event of an injury or longer-term health ailment, prior to or during tryouts, you will need to provide a **written/electronic note from your physician**, including:

- Ailment or injury incurred
- Player limitations
- Proposed timeline for return to play

Players unable to tryout will be admitted into the MVIYHA Tryout Injury Protocol, as identified in the MVIYHA Tryout Manual

# Schedule Conflicts

- Need to evaluate 300+ athletes, in >60 hours of ice, over 25 days
- **There will be conflicts, please be flexible**
- Warmup/tryout schedule originally drafted in late April
- Tryouts are coordinated around Minnesota Hockey, MV School District Laurentian trips, and MEA break schedules
- MVYHA attempts to coordinate with major fall sports
- Football, soccer, religion, Lego league, break dancing, lacrosse, choir, orchestra, band, checkers club, family events, birthdays, gun safety class, etc.
- Absences will be given a **zero score** for the session
  - New policy in 2023 for in-season, school organized Fall HS sports game conflicts
    - Must be pre-approved to avoid zero score, please contact the Tryout team for details

# Reminders

- **Please keep the tryout experience in perspective**
- Skaters and goaltenders are competing for roster spots on a **team**, to play a **game**
- Our objective is to group players by **comparable abilities**
- Our players each **develop at different rates over different time**
- Prior year team placement **does not guarantee** similar placement this season
- Some players perform better at tryouts/testing than others

Good luck to all our hockey players!

Further questions?

**Comments or Questions?**

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