

## **Message to Parents**

Thank you for your time and understanding with this process. Please see the below information that will hopefully assist you with any questions or areas of concern that you may have.

- Players will be responsible for an assigned tryout jersey. They cannot change numbers as this is linked to them for evaluations (required to be handed in after 4<sup>th</sup> session).
- Players are recommended to arrive 45 mins before each session.
- Tryout Process grouping to be determined by alphabetical order for the evaluation process. Competitive Directors will make lineup changes at their discretion in efforts to balance squads if the alphabetical process proves to be lopsided. Playing partners, lines and positions to be altered per game where necessary. A Game bench boss will be assigned to each team by Competitive directors. Bias and conflicts to be avoided if possible.

## TRYOUTS Format

- One non-evaluated skill session
- Sessions 3 x 35 min games in 2 hr block (or 3x one-hour games). Dependent on the number of players that register. Players will be informed which groups will start the session in advance. For example if there are 3 groups, 1vs2 would start followed by 1vs3, and 2vs3. All groupings play twice. The order would then be flipped the following session. Players would be advised after their game so there is clarity.
- Cutdowns will commence following the 4<sup>th</sup> session with the posting of players invited to the red / white game.
- 1 or 2 Red / White Games to be determined by Competitive Directors if necessary. Final cutdowns will be announced within 72 hrs of the final game to sefhahockey.ca. Not Facebook.
- Evaluated Player Categories
  - SKATING forward, backward, speed, power, edges, pivots, lateral movement.
  - PUCK SKILLS passing, stickhandling, control, possession
  - SHOOTING
  - HOCKEY IQ Vision, In-game awareness, positioning, play without puck, use of teammates, decision-making, special gapping.
  - COMPETE LEVEL / WORK ETHIC
- Evaluated Goalie Categories
  - STANCE
  - SKATING Mobility, Agility, Technique
  - REBOUND CONTROL
  - TRACKING
  - IN-GAME AWARENESS
- Feedback will not be provided to re-assigned players. Due to evaluation constraints coupled with year-to-year new evaluators, it is not possible for SEFHA to provide or be held to task for inconsistencies in evaluations.

- There will be up to 5 evaluators per session during the competitive tryouts that will be using the gray
  jay platform for evaluation of players. They will do 1x game in the stands (separately)
  and the other evaluations in a box together. Some will evaluate forwards, others will
  evaluate defence.
- There will be 2-3 Goalie evaluators present for the goalie evaluation session and games.
- Evaluations are marked for each of the categories provided from 1 to 5 (5 being the highest).
- After every game, the evaluator will submit their scores directly to the GrayJay platform. These scores are securely stored and cannot be altered. The SEFHA Registrar compiles the results and shares them with the Competitive Directors, who review the data with the appointed head coach in determining the final selections.
- If you have questions/concerns, please feel free to talk to any board member during the tryouts who will do their best to assist you or put you in touch with a member that can.

## **Final Note**

Tryouts can be both exciting and stressful, and we are committed to providing a fair, transparent, and respectful environment for everyone involved.

We ask all families to please keep the following in mind:

The Process: Evaluations are conducted by independent evaluators and coaches using a consistent set of criteria. Every player will be given the opportunity to demonstrate their skills, effort, and attitude.

Respect for All Players: Each child is working hard and deserves encouragement and support, regardless of the outcome.

The 24-Hour Rule: If you have questions or concerns regarding tryouts, we ask that you wait at least 24 hours before reaching out to a coach or association representative. This allows time for reflection and ensures communication is respectful and constructive.

We understand that emotions can run high during tryouts, but we are confident that by working together, we can provide a positive experience for all players. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Todd McDonald / André Caissie

SEFHA Competitive Directors Zone A/B

