



Upper York Minor Hockey Association

PLAYER EVALUATIONS POLICY

Effective for the 2025/26 season, the Upper York Minor Hockey Association (UYMHA) will implement the following Player Evaluations process. This system aims to ensure a transparent, fair, and organized evaluation process for all players.

1. Evaluation Sequence and Structure

Each age group will undergo a series of structured evaluations. Following the first round of evaluations, Head Coaches will have the opportunity to release players to the next lower team. This ensures that players are placed at the appropriate competitive level.

- a) The **AA Team** will complete its evaluations first, followed by the **A Team**, and finally the **B/BB Team**. Each team's evaluations will proceed sequentially, after the previous team's evaluations have been completed.

2. Evaluation Fees and Registration

The cost for all representative team evaluations is charged on a per-player basis and will be determined by the UYMHA Board prior to the evaluation period. For fee details, please refer to the fee schedule posted on www.upperYorkMinorHockey.com.

- a) **Evaluation Passports:** These can be purchased online via the Upper York Minor Hockey Association website. After registration and payment confirmation, participants will receive an email titled *Hockey Canada Invoice and Receipt*.
- b) **Player Passport Number:** The players passport number will be emailed, from the UYMHA Administrator, three (3) days prior to the players first evaluation skate.
- c) **Important:** Print and bring the *Receipt Email* to all evaluations as proof of registration. The Evaluation Passport Number is your reference for identification.

3. Evaluation Process and Results

Once check-in is complete, the list of participants will be provided to the Head Coach. After each evaluation session, the Head Coach will select the players who will proceed to the next round of evaluations.

- a) The results of each evaluation will be posted to the UYMHA website within **12 hours** after each evaluation session. For the final evaluation, results will be posted within **24 hours**.
- b) Players' Evaluation Passport Number will be the only identifier displayed. Players whose numbers appear on the list remain in consideration for the team. If a player's

number does not appear, they have been released from that team and may attend the next level of evaluations.

4. OMHA Commitment Letter

Players selected for a team will receive an **OMHA Commitment Letter**, which must be signed by both the player and their parent. This letter confirms their intent to play for the designated team for the upcoming season.

5. Age Group and Exception Policy

All players must compete within their designated age group. However, in exceptional cases, underage players may be permitted to play up to an older age group, provided they are among the **top three players** of the older age group, regardless of position.

- a) **Applicable Teams:** This policy applies only to **AA** and **MD (Tier 1)** teams. **A, B/BB**, and **U8-U9 MD (Tier 2)** teams are not permitted to sign underage players.
- b) **Exceptional Status Requests:**
 - I. The Head Coach of the older age group must submit a written request to the **UYMHA Hockey Operations Team** (including the Director of Rep and Director of Development) at least 24 hours before the evaluation skate.
 - II. The player will be evaluated by an independent panel and the UYMHA board to determine if the player meets exceptional status.
 - III. No team may have more than one underage player on its roster. All decisions regarding underage players are final and not open to appeal.

6. Team Roster Submission

Head Coaches are required to submit their finalized team rosters within specific timelines after the conclusion of the tryouts.

- a) **U8 & U9 Teams:** Head Coaches must submit a team roster of at least **18 players** within 48 hours after the final tryout.
- b) **U10-U16 Teams:** A completed roster with at least **15 players** and **2 goaltenders** must be submitted within 48 hours after the final tryout.
- c) **U18 Teams:** Head Coaches must submit signed team selections within **48 hours** of spring evaluations and the final roster must be submitted by **September 20**.

7. Non-Resident Player Selections

UYMHA allows the selection of up to **four (4) non-resident players** per team. If a Head Coach wishes to select more than four non-resident players, they must submit a request to the UYMHA Executive Board for approval.

8. Goaltender Policy (U8 & U9 MD)

UYMHA recognizes the changing landscape of hockey and adjusts its policies accordingly. The Hockey Canada Pathways Program, followed by both East Gwillimbury and Georgina's U7 programming, is now applied to **U8** and **U9 MD** teams within UYMHA. The following guidelines will govern goaltending selections:

U8 MD (Tier 1 and 2)

1. **Roster Selection:** The Head Coach must select **18 players** for their team during the UYMHA evaluations.
2. **Goaltending Role:** Players must attend evaluations as regular skaters and will not be evaluated as goaltenders.
3. **Goaltender Commitments:** Players wishing to play goaltender full-time may do so, but the final decision rests with the Head Coach.
4. **Opportunities:** All players will have the opportunity to play goaltender during practices and games.

U9 MD (Tier 1 and 2)

1. **Roster Selection:** The Head Coach must select **18 players** for the team during UYMHA evaluations.
2. **Goaltending Role:** Players are permitted to attend evaluations as goaltenders and will be properly evaluated for that position.
3. **Goaltender Commitments:** Players wishing to commit to goaltending full-time may do so, subject to the Head Coach's approval.
4. **Opportunities:** All players will have the opportunity to play goaltender during practices and games.

Conclusion

UYMHA is committed to ensuring a fair, transparent, and organized evaluation process for all players. This policy outlines clear procedures to ensure that each player is given the best opportunity to succeed in their development and placement on the appropriate team for the upcoming season. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding in adhering to these guidelines to help us maintain a high standard of hockey for all participants.