

Rep Tryout Procedure Guidelines
Supplement to Policy 7 - Rep Hockey

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Introduction:

The intent of this Rep Tryout Procedure Guidelines document is to provide an overview and process that will be followed for the selection of all Abbotsford Minor Hockey Association (“AMHA”) Rep teams.

Rep Tryout Objectives:

AMHA would like to assess each player wishing to play at a higher level, on their skills and abilities at the time of evaluation in a fair and transparent manner.

Rep Tryouts are broken into Four (4) Phases:

1. Phase 1 - Goalie Evaluation, Skater technical skill and individual tactics evaluation
2. Phase 2 - Balanced Games (Competitive evaluation)
3. Phase 3 - Intersquad Games (A & B Pools)
4. Phase 4 - Round Robin and/or Exhibition Evaluation Games

Purpose of Player Evaluation and Selection:

This Rep Procedure Guideline is written in the best interest of the AMHA. Its intention is to outline what the Board of Directors and Rep Tryout Coordinator feel will provide the best opportunity for each player to demonstrate their abilities through a series of drills and scrimmages.

This document addresses the practical needs and concerns of all participants. However, should questions arise, please raise these with your Division Director. Refer to the AMHA website for the latest updates. <https://abbotsfordminorhockey.ca>

1. Players need to check the website **daily** throughout the tryout process as there will be changes made in the groups. AMHA website will be updated in the evening each day to show roster changes. See **Rep Tryout Tab** for division advancement or releases.
2. Players not advancing in the rep tryout process will be contacted by the Coordinator for the Division with instructions on how to proceed with the “C” evaluation process.
3. Players who do not show up for an evaluation session on day 1 will be contacted by the division director as to why they haven’t shown up. If a valid reason is given they will continue on with the evaluation. If no shows occur a score of zero will be applied to the player. After day 1 of AMHA tryouts players who are late or or are no-shows for the session will receive a score of zero for that session’s evaluation

Objectives of Player Evaluation:

1. To provide a fair and impartial assessment of a player's hockey skills.
2. To ensure that players have a reasonable opportunity of being selected to a team appropriate to their skill levels as determined during the on-ice evaluations of the current year.
3. To provide uniformity and consistency in the evaluation process such that a player and parent expectations are consistent from year-to-year as players move through the various levels of the association's programs.
4. To form teams to maintain balanced and competitive play where the athletes can develop and participate equitably and have fun playing hockey during the season.

5. To be able to provide feedback in order to develop players.
6. Following the final AMHA B Pool game (see below), one-on-one tryout feedback will be held for players who have played in this final game. The Rep Tryout Facilitator, Division Director and or VP2 of on ice operations and A1 non parent coach will be present. Location at MSA TBD
7. One on One tryout feedback from the host city tryouts will occur following the final Round Robin game for each division in Abbotsford at MSA. Date and time TBD. Rep Tryout Facilitator and VP2 of Operations or Division Director will be in attendance along with the A1 Head Coach.

Evaluation Team:

1. The “*Evaluation Team*” will consist of Independent Evaluators and/or appointed non-parent A1 Head Coaches.
2. The “*Evaluation Team*” will be chaired by the Rep Tryout Coordinator.

Evaluator Guidelines:

1. No Director or Executive Member will be privy to the results of evaluations from their child’s Division.
2. Players will be assigned two (2) jerseys on Day 1 with a designated number for the duration of tryouts. Goalies will be assigned one jersey on day 1 of evaluations.

Evaluation Schedule:

- Posted on AMHA website. <https://abbotsfordminorhockey.ca>
- Go to **Rep Tryout Tab** for your child’s division.

Evaluation Process “Skaters” Overview:

PROCESS

The Rep Tryout Coordinator will determine any and all evaluation tools used by the Evaluators.

Players will be placed in Skill Testing groups. Groups will be created based on alphabetical order using the player’s last name.

Day 1

- Technical Skills and Individual tactics evaluation.

Day 2

- Balanced scrimmage evaluations.
- Balanced Teams will be selected based on **Day 1** evaluation scores.

Days 3-5

- A/B Pool* Intersquad Game based evaluations

Round Robin

- To finalize the rosters, there will be a round robin at select host cities for the respective division

***A/B Pools**

1. Based on the individual player rankings from the **Days 1-2**, players will be placed into “A” or “B” groups for game play evaluation. **If the total player numbers trying out in a specific Division do not support an A & B group, AMHA will restructure the evaluation groups to provide the best opportunity for all players to have a fair evaluation.**
2. Player movement can occur between A & B skill groups for Games 2 and 3 based on prior Game evaluations (all Divisions). Movement is based on Evaluation Rankings.
3. Some players may not play the 3rd evaluation game for the A group during the AMHA Round Robin based on being a Top 1-3 ranking skater or being the top ranked goalie.
4. See Appendix 1 & 2 for evaluation criteria pertaining to all Divisions.
5. After the 3rd A/B Intersquad game, pools will be created to the following sizes:

Divisions with TWO (2) Rep Teams	Divisions with THREE (3) Rep Teams
----- (U15 and U18)	----- (U11 and U13)
A1 - 20 players, 3 goalies	A1 - 20 players, 3 goalies
A2 - 17 players, 3 goalies	A2 - 17 players, 2 goalies
	A3 - 15 players, 3 goalies

NOTE: The above allotment is subject to change based on evaluation rankings.

6. Pools will be posted to the AMHA website. *See Rep Tryout Tab for advancement*
7. Once pools are formed, players will report to their practice team and a practice will be held prior to Round Robin tournament games and/or exhibition games depending on Division. No Independent Evaluators will be present.

Technicalities:

- Players may be asked to play a position that they have not tried out for. Consent must be provided by the parents and player if this becomes a possible solution for the betterment of the player and team.

- All Divisions will participate in a Round Robin. AMHA will provide an independent Evaluator to each Round Robin event. There is no minimum number of exhibition games guaranteed. Schedules and locations for each Division to be posted on the AMHA website when determined.
- The Rep Tryout Coordinator, together with the A1 Coaches and the Independent Evaluator will have discretion to sit players out during Round Robin to expedite the evaluation of other individuals (See “Healthy Scratch” section)
- Team rosters will be posted on the AMHA website following the Round Robin tournament and/or exhibition games. *See “Rep Tryout Tab **section for more details.

Evaluation Process “Goalies” Overview:

1. During goalie evaluations an independent on-ice Instructor will lead goalies through a number of skill based drills. Following the individual skills session the goalies will take part in Simulated Game Situations to allow evaluations to occur in game like situations. Evaluations will be completed by Independent goalie Evaluators and the Divisions A1 non-parent Head Coach.
2. Based on the on skill session & simulated game situations run by the independent Evaluators, releases will be made to a maximum of twelve (12) goalies for three (3) team Divisions and eight (8) goalies for two (2) team Divisions. Divisions with three (3) teams with less than twelve (12) goalies trying out will have no releases after Day 1.
3. Goalies released after this phase will receive a \$100.00 refund of their Rep Tryout Fee.
4. Goalies moving forward will be assigned to the A or B skill groups and will participate in the intersquad Game #1. Depending on the number of goalies trying out in a specific Division, a rotation will be created to ensure playing time is as even as it can be for the evaluation games.
5. The 2nd stage of goalie releases will happen after the first A/B intersquad game. Releases will be made to eight (8) goalies for a three (3) team Division and six (6) goalies for a two (2) team Division.
6. Goalies released after this phase will receive a \$75.00 refund of their Rep Tryout Fee.
7. If justified, goalies may be moved between the A and B skill groups after Game 1. No releases will be made after Day 4 at this stage of AMHA tryouts.
8. Goalies will be assigned to A1/ A2/ or A3 groups to participate in the practice and the Round Robin and/or exhibition games.
9. An Independent Evaluator will be involved in the Round Robin evaluations for the players and goalies throughout the tournament weekend.
10. Final goalie releases will be made after the Round Robin tournament and/or exhibition games.

Final Team Selection:

At the conclusion of the Round Robin and/or exhibition games, final Division selection will be made by an assigned independent Evaluator(s), all non-parent Head A1 Coach(s), in consultation with the Rep Tryout Coordinator. The Division Director is to ensure the policy is being followed.

Releases:

	Divisions with TWO (2) Rep Teams ----- (U15 and U18)	Divisions with THREE (3) Rep Teams ----- (U11 and U13)
After AMHA Round Robin Game #1:	Reduced to 46 players, 6 goalies	Reduced to 60 players, 8 goalie
After Round Robin Game #3:	Reduced to 37 players, 6 goalies	Reduced to 52 players, 8 goalies
After City Round Robin:	Reduced to 31 players, 4 goalies	Reduced to 45 players, 6 goalies
ATTENTION: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A1/ A2/ A3 Pools following A/B Intersquad Game #2 are noted above on Page 4. ❖ The number of teams and players above is subject to change based on Registration. Furthermore, if the Evaluators determine that there is insufficient talent available to fill out the rosters, the AMHA reserves the right to collapse a team based on skill level of the overall team(s). This policy is in place to maintain high standards of competition in the AMHA and to ensure that all teams are able to perform at a level that is fair and challenging for all participants. ❖ U15 and U18 will carry sixteen (16) skaters for the A1 teams. 		

4. Releases will be determined through discussion and consultations with the independent Evaluators and A1 Coaches. In the event that there is a conflict of interest present, the President reserves the right to appoint an alternate.
5. After U18 tryouts are complete, Junior and Zone U17 & U18 releases will return to A1 and be seen in a practice and game to determine placement. These players may or may not remain with the A1 team after the initial evaluation. Only those who have purchased a Hold Fee are eligible to tryout for rep.

Coach Assignments:

1. The Board of Directors has the authority to hire non-parent, paid Coaches at the Rep Level where they see fit, as part of the Coach selection process the AMHA follows each year.
2. Parent Coaches will be assigned to their teams when the timing is deemed appropriate.

Injuries and Sickness:

Injuries prior to Tryouts:

1. Medical excuses are to be facilitated through the parent/Guardian of the player.
2. Any medical excuse (injury or illness) must be accompanied by a Doctor's note **prior** to the commencement of Tryouts
3. All medical notes excusing a player from tryouts needs to be submitted directly to the Division Director who will forward this to the AMHA Registrar.
4. If the injury is substantial and the player is unable to return for a period of time, they will be guaranteed an *independent* evaluation. The evaluation will consist of a combination of two (2) ice times. One (1) practice and one (1) game will be guaranteed for the evaluation. A determination will be made after the two (2) ice time assessment whether to keep the player or move up/down.
5. Players returning from injury or illness sustained prior to tryouts and returning before final releases will return to the level they played the previous season if returning to the same Division. A player with no rep history will be placed at A3 for Division with three (3) teams; A2 for Division with two (2) teams for their two (2) ice time evaluation.
6. Players returning up a Division will start one level down. For example a U13 A1 player will start at U15 A2. Players with no prior rep experience will start on the lowest rep team for that Division.
7. All Divisions are to follow return to play protocols prescribed by their physician.

Injuries sustained during Tryouts:

Short-Term (Missing 1-2 skates)

1. All injuries or illnesses that occur during Rep tryouts while at the arena, need to be reported and recorded using Hockey Canada's Medical report form. AMHA will provide the forms and complete the details, but it is a player's responsibility to ensure that injuries sustained as a result of the tryout are reported.
2. Players that sustain injuries or illnesses that prevent them from continuing in the evaluation process need to seek medical attention and obtain a Doctor's note that indicates the nature of the injury, as well as that player's ability to continue on the ice. The Doctor's note is to be provided by the parent/guardian of the player to the Administrator.
3. If a player cannot continue on the ice as per doctor's instructions, a Doctor's note will be required that "clears" that player to return to the ice when ready.

4. The Rep Tryouts Coordinator will take note of all evaluations completed up to the point of injury, and when that player returns, shall be placed at a level indicated by the evaluation notes as compared to the players competing against at the time of injury.
5. If the player is ill or injured prior to at least two (2) A/B Pool games, the player will start the process at the level of the previous year, or if moving up a Division one level lower (similar to #5 & #6 above)
6. For players leaving at any point during rep tryouts due to injury or illness and returning prior to long term injury status will be placed on a team based on their evaluations to that point.

Long-Term (Missing beyond tryouts)

“Injuries that prevent a player from returning to try outs will be assessed on a case by case basis by the Rep tryout facilitator, the A1 coach and the evaluation team based on previous years placements, the length of the injury, and the best interest of the players and teams involved. The tryout evaluation team will determine which rep team holds a spot for the returning player based on this assessment.

Upon return the player will participate in a “minimum 1 team practice, and then will participate in the next scheduled game after the practice, to determine final team placement.”

Appeals:

1. All appeals must be submitted by using the *Appeal Application Form* which can be submitted via AMHA website to amha@abbotsfordminorhockey.ca
2. Appeals must be received within forty-eight (48) hours of the release.
3. \$50 e transfer must accompany the application form. Payment must be processed before application is complete.
 - a. If the appeal is won, the \$50 fee will be returned via e transfer.
 - b. If the appeal is lost, the \$50 fee will become non-refundable
4. Appeals will ***only*** be considered based on policy not being followed.

Pant Shells & Helmet Stickers:

It is our goal to have every player evaluated at Rep Tryouts based on their skill. Therefore, you must remove any team affiliated pant shells and helmet stickers before participating in all on ice sessions, You will be reminded of this at sign-in. No spring affiliation colors will be tolerated whatsoever. Failure to comply may result in missed ice times. This is not an appealable clause.

Healthy Scratches:

We aim to ensure a fair and thorough evaluation for all players. Final team selections will be based on a variety of factors and overall performance throughout the tryout period. If you sit in an A1 game you are deemed to have made that team.

Guideline Disclaimer:

Every effort will be made by the AMHA executive to adhere to this process. Failure to do so will not guarantee a re-evaluation. It is our goal to give each player wishing to try out for a rep team, the fairest possible opportunity to do so.

Notwithstanding clause:

There may be some exceptions under special circumstances. There are often variables that can't all be accounted for and at times, decisions may need to be made based on rationales that provide fairness, not only to the individual player, but to those players that he/she is competing against.

Appendix 1 - Skater Selection Criteria

This is to be used as a reference tool for independent Evaluators & Coaches in player selection and ranking. All non-parent Head Coaches from A1 will be present in their division as well with select independent evaluators selected by the Rep Tryout Facilitator Joe Pereira .

Technical Skills:

- **Skating**
 - *Speed*
 - *Explosiveness*
 - *Edge control (Agility)*
- **Puck Control**
 - *Passing and Receiving skill*
 - *Stick handling skill*
 - *In traffic, under pressure and 1on1 puck skills*
- **Shooting**
 - *Shot power*
 - *Short release skill (Change point, quickness)*
 - *Scoring ability*
- **Checking**
 - *Stick checking ability*
 - *Angeling & positioning through hands*
 - *Physicality (at appropriate levels only)*

Mental Skills:

- **Positioning:**
 - *Game Sense (positioning and awareness on the ice)*
 - *Ability to make plays on Defensive side at puck*
 - *Ability to maintain good position on Defensive side away from puck*
 - *Ability to make plays on Offensive side with puck*
 - *Ability to find ice on Offensive side without puck*

- Communication

Appendix 2 - Goalie Selection Criteria

A third-party has been selected for Goalie Evaluation. They will provide two (2) off-ice Evaluators for the Goalie Skills practice and the first scrimmage. One (1) individual will evaluate the remaining A/B Pool Games and will be on stand-by (as needed) for the Round Robin. Their evaluation will be in concert with the Head Coach of each Division (except U11) and additional Evaluator(s). Each category below will be graded on a Scale of 1 - 5 (including half marks).

Athleticism:

- Speed/Power
- Competitiveness
- Coordination

Skating Technique:

- Balance/Stability
- Posture
- Sharpness
- Edge control
- Methods of skating - appropriate to situation
- Composure

Selection:

- Tracking
- Reading Play
- Saves - appropriate to situation
- Rebound Control
- Technique

Tactical Play:

- Depth control
- Crease management
- Situational awareness
- Screens

Intangibles:

- Emotional response
- Body Language/Demeanor
- Puck handling
- Communication
- Leadership Qualities

Skater Evaluator Attestation

Abbotsford Minor Hockey Association

PO Box 114,
Abbotsford, BC V2S 6Z5

Date: _____

To whom it may concern,

I hereby attest that I will conduct the hockey tryouts for AMHA in accordance with the guidelines and standards set forth by the Board of Directors and Rep Tryout Coordinator. My evaluations will be based on the Skater Selection criteria, summarized below:

1. Skating: Assessment of speed, agility, and overall skating technique.
2. Puck Control: Evaluation of puck control, passing accuracy, and dexterity.
3. Shooting: Analysis of shooting power, accuracy, and variety (wrist shots, slap shots, etc.).
4. Checking: Consideration of the player's ability to engage physically, including checking and endurance.
5. Game Sense, Attitude and Work Ethic: Monitoring of the player's effort, attitude and positioning.

Each player will be given equal opportunity to demonstrate their skills and abilities through a series of drills and scrimmages. My assessments will be made impartially, with no personal interest or bias towards any player.

Sincerely,

Per:

Goalie Evaluator Attestation

Abbotsford Minor Hockey Association

PO Box 114,
Abbotsford, BC V2S 6Z5

Date: _____

To whom it may concern,

I hereby attest that I will conduct the hockey tryouts for AMHA in accordance with the guidelines and standards set forth by the Board of Directors and Rep Tryout Coordinator. My evaluations will be based on the Goalie Selection criteria, summarized below:

1. Skating & Mobility: Assessment of speed, balance and overall skating technique.
2. Save Selection: Evaluation of puck control on shots from different angles/ scenarios.
3. Reactions & Reflexes: Analysis of quickness and athletic ability.
4. Rebound Control:: Consideration of the player's ability to limit second opportunities.
5. Puck Handling: Assessment of passing, stopping rims and zone clears.
6. Tactical Skills: Analysis of angles/positioning, focus/mental strength and play anticipation

Each player will be given equal opportunity to demonstrate their skills and abilities through a series of drills and scrimmages. My assessments will be made impartially, with no personal interest or bias towards any player.

Sincerely,

Per: