



DWMHA Tryout Process

Purpose

- To share information to membership regarding player evaluation/balancing at all age levels of DWMHA
- First commitment to being a Whaler
- Commitment of C level (community based hockey) to Representative (Eligible for Provincial Championships)
- Followed by each level and the transition from each level to another with expectations

Evaluation Process Representative Hockey

- Tryouts will be held at U11 to U18 levels of hockey
- Composition of teams at each age level will be based upon number of players at each level and the competitive level of skill
- Tryouts will commence Oct 1 of each season (U13AAA as an exception)
- Tryouts will consist of a skills by position session, followed by inter-squad games and concluded with exhibition games
- Players will participate in 3-4 ice times before any players are released to C level hockey

Evaluation Process Representative Hockey (Cont'd)

- All evaluators are deemed out of conflict. Many of the evaluators are not members of the association, but the definition of out of conflict is no parents are participating who have a child at the level they are evaluating.
- There is a tryout committee that oversees the process and again are out of conflict. They ensure the process is followed and evaluators are maintaining their responsibilities. This committee will be comprised and not limited to Director of Competitive Hockey, Exec-Vice President, and others who are approved by the DWMHA board who are not in conflict.

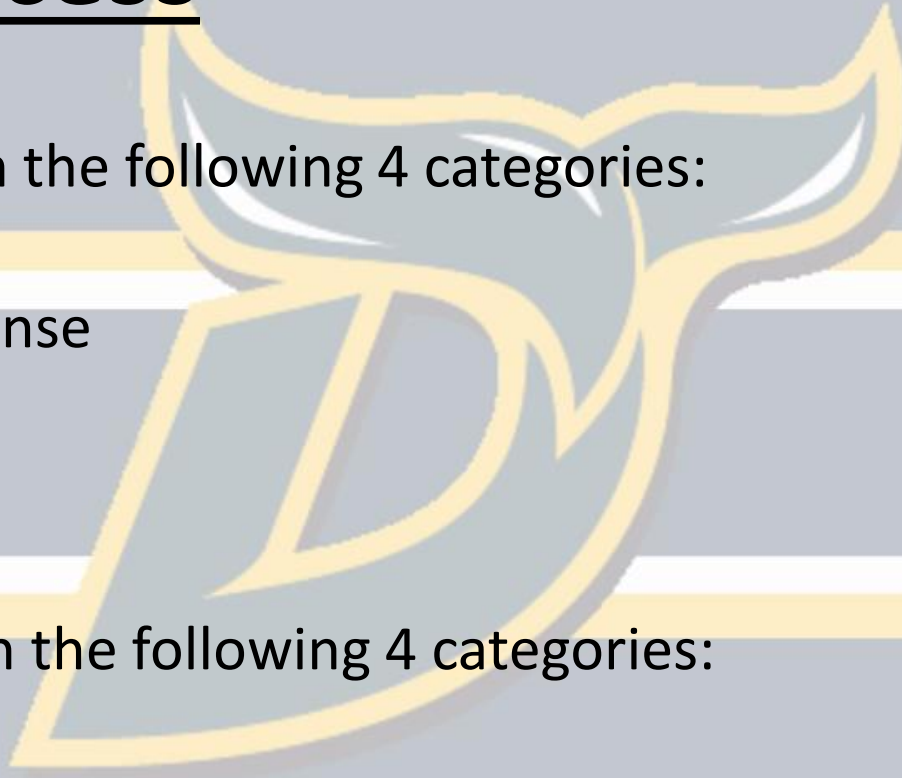
Evaluation Process

Players will be evaluated on the following 4 categories:

- Skating
- Hockey Positional Play/Sense
- Hockey Skills
- Compete Level

Goalies will be evaluated on the following 4 categories:

- Skating
- Positional Awareness
- Goaltending Skill
- Compete Level



Evaluation Process (Cont'd)

- All levels utilize at evaluation software: Team Genius
- This product provides a consist platform for evaluators to score the players on the 4 categories identified
- Evaluators use a tablet to enter their scores, which provides a formatted report that allows for prompt discussion regarding each session
- Team Genius also allows for a player ranking by position in a consistent format

Balancing Process C Level

- Players who have identified or have been released from Representative hockey evaluation process begin a balancing process for C level hockey
- Balancing takes place at or near the conclusion of rep evaluations at the appropriate level
- Players have specified ice times to be evaluated for the balancing process
- Team Genius is used as the evaluation platform
- At the conclusion players are balanced on the pre-determined number of teams

Conditioning Ice

- Conditioning ice takes place during the month of September
- Players are placed in groups at each age group from U9 to U18
- There are 6 sessions for each age group
- Players will be grouped based upon where they played the season before
- Sessions will be run by Whaler coaches

Balancing U9 Level

- All Players who have identified to take part in U9 level of hockey
- Balancing takes place in October
- Players have specified ice times to be evaluated for the balancing process
- Players are evaluated on pre-determined set of skills by a number of evaluators
- Team Genius is used as the evaluation platform
- At the conclusion players are balanced on the pre-determined number of teams for Developing, Intermediate and Advancing

U7 to U9

- Players who are leaving U7 to U9 will be evaluated and placed on one of 3 levels: Developing, Intermediate and Advancing
- The number of teams at each level will be determined by total number of players registered at U9.
- Players will practice from mid October to December 1
- Players will have 2 sessions per week
- For the most part 2 teams will share the ice for each practice
- Half ice games will begin December 1 and have a maximum of 30 half ice games
- Full ice games can begin Feb 15 and have maximum 6 full ice games

C level hockey within DWMHA

- C level hockey participate in Dartmouth Region Recreation League (DRRL) comprised of Cole Harbour, Dartmouth, East Hants and Eastern Shore Minor Hockey
- Teams have 1 practice per week on shared ice and 1-2 games a week
- Fundraising is limited and budget is approved by parents
- Tournaments per season 1-3 with limited travel
- Number of teams within Dartmouth Whalers is dependent upon registration
- Each team will have a parent/player meeting to discuss the season and expectations for the team
- DWMHA support C level hockey from U11 to U18

Representative Hockey with DWMHA

- Representative hockey in DWMHA participate in HRM based Central Minor Hockey Federation (CMHF)
- Teams have 2 practices and 2 games per week on average. Off ice activities may also be part of seasonal plan
- Teams can play in 3-4 tournaments with the Maritimes
- Fundraising is expected and the budget is approved by parents
- Attendance at team events is expected and attendance policy is set by coaching staff
- Each team will have a parent/player meeting to discuss the season and expectations for the team

U9 moving to U11 Hockey

- Players who are transitioning to U11 from U9 have 2 options: representative or C level hockey
- Players who decide rep hockey then take part in evaluations beginning early October.
- C level balancing will take place near the end or at the conclusion of Rep evaluations
- U11 will have 3-4 teams at the Rep level. If registration at U11 level exceed 110 plus or minus 10 the association must have 2 AA teams. This is an HNS policy
- C level dependent upon the registration level will have 3-4 teams

U11 moving to U13

- The major change at this level is U13 has a AAA level which plays in a provincial league. Evaluation for this level is a separate process and begins prior to regular U13 evaluations
- The commitment to the AAA team is increased in all aspects of hockey i.e. travel, fundraising, and attendance
- At rep level composition of teams can be 4-5 teams based upon number of registrants and competitiveness of teams. They will participate in CMHF at AA, A and B levels.
- At C level the number of teams is 3-4 playing in DRRL

U13 moving to 15

- The major change at this level is there is a U15 Major Bantam league with funnels some players from the DWMHA. This team is Dartmouth Whalers Major Bantam but it is not affiliated with DWMHA
- At the rep level DWMHA supports teams at AA, A and B levels. The number of teams will depend upon registration and competitiveness
- Rep teams participate in CMHF
- Like other levels similar commitments are required by players and parents
- At C level DWMHA support 3-4 teams based on registration and participate in DRRL

U15 moving to U18

- This level is a moving target
- With 3 high schools drawing up to 60 players and another high school having 5-10 players on their rosters it places DWMHA in a precarious situation
- Also U18 Major and U16 AAA take another group of players who would have been in the DWMHA at previous age groups
- Supporting U18 rep has been a challenge and until registration numbers are confirmed no decisions can be made
- U18 C has 3-4 teams at this level to participate in DRRL

U18 moving to U23

- Maybe the best kept secret of minor hockey
- For players who are leaving U18 and are interested in playing hockey in a non contact environment
- There are no practices for the most part, just games
- The team plays in Metro Minor Hockey League and has a team from Acadia Minor as part of the group
- Games are normally later at night. DWMHA have their home games Monday evening at RBC at 9:30. Games are 3 periods, 15 min in length