



2026-27 RAYHA Boys Traveling Tryout Procedures

EVALUATORS

Paid outside/independent D1/D3 college and professional players will evaluate all sessions, along with one coach for the specific team being selected (ie. session 1,2 and 3 will have the A coach present; session 3 will also have the B coaches present). Each session will consist of four graders and one coach equaling 5 scores per skater per session. The graders will rank each player's hockey skills, compete level, and hockey sense.

ON ICE SESSIONS- SQUIRTS

Each skater will skate in a total of three (3) on ice sessions. Each goalie will skate in four (4) total on ice sessions, including three (3) skater/goalie combined sessions, and one (1) goalie only session.

Session 1

Players are separated into "Silver" and "Black" groups to reduce the number of players on the ice at the same time. Each group will include an equal number of returning "A" and "B" players along with players who are looking to make the "A" or "B" team for the first time. These sessions will consist of skills (drills) and a scrimmage.

Session 2 and 3

Following Session 1, evaluators will place players and goalies into their session 2 and 3 group assignments either "Red" or "White". The "Red" session will be players in the C and lower B pool, and the White session will be players in the A and upper B pool. Scores from Session 1 will carry forward into Sessions 2 and 3. Final team roster assignments will be made following the conclusion of all Session 3 ice time.

ON ICE SESSIONS- PEEWEES AND BANTAMS

Each skater will skate in a total of three (3) on ice sessions. Each goalie will skate in four (4) total on ice sessions, including three (3) skater/goalie combined sessions, and one (1) goalie only session.

Session 1 and 2

Players are separated into "Silver" and "Black" groups to reduce the number of players on the ice at the same time. Each group will include an equal number of returning "A" and "B" players along with players who are looking to make the "A" or "B" team for the first time. These sessions will consist of skills (drills) and a scrimmage.

Session 3

Following Session 2, evaluators will place players and goalies into their Session 3 group assignments either "Red" or "White". The "Red" session will be players in the C and lower B pool, and the White session will be players in the A and upper B pool. Scores from Sessions 1 and 2 will carry forward into Session 3. Final team roster assignments will be made following the conclusion of all Session 3 ice time.

INJURED/SICK PLAYER

If a player will miss one or more tryout session(s) for medical or health related reasons, the parent must communicate the reason for missing in writing prior to the tryout date. This request will be reviewed by the Tryout Committee and team placement will be decided based on the below criteria:

- 1) The player's attended tryout scores (current or prior year).
- 2) Prior year(s) team placement
- 3) Recommendation from prior season(s) coaches
- 4) Discussion with current season head coaches

If a player is unable to finish tryouts, the player must contact the Tryout Committee immediately. Players that need to miss a tryout session due to non-medical or injury reasons must notify the Tryout Committee.

PROJECTED TEAM SIZES

Based on registration projected teams and numbers of players on each team for the upcoming season will be as follows:

Squirt: A, B1, C – (11 – 13 skaters) and 1-2 goalies

PeeWee: A, B1, C – (11 – 13 skaters) and 1-2 goalies

Bantam: A, B1, C – (11 – 15 skaters) and 1 -2 goalies

GOALIES

The GOALIE ONLY tryouts will be run by Hartzell Hockey and will focus on the following items:

- 1) Goalie specific skating/edge work
- 2) Goalie specific movements ie: east and west between the pipes. Movement in and out of the crease, puck tracking.
- 3) Goalie fundamentals: butterfly, Glove/Blocker, RVH, maintaining good position and puck tracking
- 4) Goalie IQ overall knowledge in Goalie specific movements/ positioning.

No game play during Goalie only sessions

After Goalie only session Hartzell hockey coaches will rate players in each level top to bottom no longer will goalie only session count as 50% of overall grade. Goalies rankings will follow them into level specific tryouts.

Level specific tryouts will be graded by Hartzell Hockey

Hartzell Hockey graders will be continuing to look at mentioned skills during Goalie only tryout as well as:

- 1) Game play
- 2) Goalie IQ during game play
- 3) Goalie specific movement during game play
- 4) Hartzell Hockey will be using the SkillShark grading system used by RAYHA in addition to their own ranking system during level specific tryouts.

ADDENDUM A - TRYOUTS

10U and Above

The tryout procedure shall be determined in cooperation with the Mahtomedi Hockey Association.

Squirt Level and Above

The selection process for RAYHA teams involves several steps and considerations. The structure of tryouts, other than what is contained here, such as groupings, schedules, etc. shall be determined by the Board.

Integrity of the Process:

No member of RAYHA (defined broadly in the bylaws), except for the allowed Coach as noted below, on the board or otherwise, shall be present in any area of the Roseville Ice Arena with a line of sight to the ice playing surface during the tryout period with the players on the ice. Incidental presence in the Arena by tryout volunteers going between locations within the arena is acceptable. The Coach of a team (if determined) may be present for the final tryout session to determine that coach's team.

If a Board Member's child is being discussed that board member shall excuse themselves from the meeting room for the duration of that discussion and abstain from any vote on that player if taken.

Tabulation of Grades:

The Boys or Girls' Traveling Director and level directors are responsible for reviewing the grades provided by the independent graders. The grades are carefully assessed to determine the players' performance and rankings.

Initial Evaluation Sessions:

If there are enough players at a level that requires two groups for the initial tryout sessions, players are assigned to groups based on an even split of returning traveling team players and a balanced split of other players based on age. The evaluation sessions for all teams are conducted together for the first two sessions, or as determined otherwise by the Board. Afterward, A tryouts continue until a predetermined number of skaters are selected, and then the B1 and B2 tryouts resume. Goalies are placed on teams that match their total tryout score, aiming for parity.

Preliminary Promotions:

Before each subsequent evaluation session, the Head Coach, Boys or Girls' Traveling Director, and level directors determine the target number of candidates to invite back for the next session. Once the grades are compiled and the target number of highest scores is established, the players' pullover and/or jersey numbers are posted. If there is no clear division, the Head coach, graders, and Boys or Girls' Traveling Director discuss the candidates to ensure objectivity.

Team Size. The number of players on each team shall be determined as follows:

The Tryout Committee shall determine the size of each team in an age level once complete evaluator scores have been received.

Ideally, each team in an age group should have approximately the same number of skaters and goalies per team. No team should be assigned more than 15 skaters, unless the other teams in the age group also have 15 skaters. These team size rules should be followed unless there is a break in skill level as indicated by the tryout scores that would cause a lower-scoring player to be placed on a team where their skill level was an outlier and they are unlikely to have a good experience in that season.

Provided there are enough skaters in an age group so that each team within that age group can have a minimum of ten skaters, no team shall be assigned fewer than ten skaters.

For these purposes, a goalie who also skates out part-time counts as .5 of a skater. For example, a team who has nine full-time skaters and two goalies who also skate as a position players when not in goal is acceptable.

All players registered shall be placed on a team, unless there is a discipline issue which shall be dealt with under RAYHA rules.

Team Placement:

After the last session for a team level, the teams shall be determined as follows:

Decision Makers.

The Tryout Committee is charged with determining final rosters. The

Tryout Committee for each age level (squirts, pee wees, and bantams) is comprised of the outside evaluators, the level director, the boys' hockey director, and the goalie director.

The Tryout Committee shall view the outside grader evaluations as the primary factor in team placement and the outside grader evaluations shall be given all-but-determinative weight.

No member of the Tryout Committee shall be present for any child-specific discussion or vote of their own child's team placement.

Appeals:

Deviation from the selection procedures requires the approval of the RAYHA Board. If a coach, grader, or RAYHA member feels that a deviation is warranted, they must submit a written appeal to the Board, who will decide whether to continue the selection process or convene a special session with the Board to consider the appeal.

Attendance and Exceptional Circumstances:

Players are expected to attend all designated evaluation sessions. Exceptions may be made for verified illness, doctor-diagnosed injury, or immediate family emergencies. In such cases, the Boys or Girls' Traveling Director must be notified in advance. Appeals can be made to the Board, initiated through the Grievance Committee, to hold a place on a team for a player unable to attend evaluation sessions due to temporary disabling

injury, illness, or family emergency. Please see the Injured or Ill Player Tryout Policy (addendum B) if your player can't attend tryouts due to injury or illness.

SCHEDULE CONFLICTS

If a player is unable to attend one of their scheduled tryouts, they must notify the Level Director prior to the start of that tryout. The Director will determine whether the player will be assigned to a make-up session if one is available. If a make-up session is not possible, the Board will determine appropriate and fair scoring for the player.

PLAYERS INJURED DURING TRYOUTS

If a player is injured during tryouts and is unable to complete the remaining tryout sessions, the Board may review the following to ensure the player is placed at the appropriate team level:

- The total number of tryout sessions missed and the player's current ranking result in any completed tryout sessions.

- The player's prior year evaluation and the level played.
- Interview with past coaches.

TRYOUT INJURY / ABSENCE GUIDELINES (WILL MISS ENTIRE TRYOUTS) Parent /guardian of an injured player must contact the Board/ Level Director prior to the start of tryouts. RAYHA may require an official doctor's note indicating that player inability to participate in tryouts.

An injured/ill player may be expected to return to 100% of his/her playing capabilities by December 31st, based on a doctor's estimation, to be eligible for a spot on any "AA", "A" or "B"- team level. This date is based on Minnesota Hockey Roster deadlines. Players who cannot be expected to perform at their full playing potential by December 31st may be placed on a "C" team or lowest level offered, provided there are openings. If the player is trying out for a team above their designated age group (ie "play up"), they will not be allowed to play on the highest level team (AA/A).

The Board and/or tryout committee members will review each player's case and decide on a placement for the player. The committee's decision will be based on:

- Past abilities of the player.
- Interview with past coaches.
- Severity of injury/sickness.
- The players ability to play (without medical restriction) by December 31; and
- An assessment as to placement that is in best interests of the Association and the player (as is the case with all players participating in the tryout process).

An appeal may be made by the parent/guardian of the injured/ill player. The Board of Directors - Grievance Committee will consider the appeal and subsequent team placement.