



Boys Tryout Process



- **NEW THIS YEAR**** \$500 Volunteer Checks will be required at tryout check in on the first day. If checks are not provided, your child will not be able to participate in tryouts until it is. This check is not cashed, but secured for the remainder of the season until all volunteer hours are met.**
- Initial Groups will be randomized and posted online, but considerations will be made for skaters with other sport conflicts, if possible, on their initial tryout day.
- CPYHA Tryouts are a **Closed Tryout** (no spectators) scored by Independent Evaluators, not by any CPYHA members. CPYHA Traveling Committee is on site to facilitate the tryout, but does not have input on Evaluation Scores
- Squirts Only
 - First Session will be devoted to an individual skills evaluation with a scrimmage to follow if time allows. Skating and stickhandling skills will be evaluated via various individual drills, as determined by the independent evaluators.
- All Levels Scrimmage Evaluation Process
 - Scrimmages may be played 4 on 4 or 5 on 5 depending on numbers
 - Player positions and linemates will be shuffled by tryout staff in a 4 on 4 scenario or a computer randomizer program for 5 on 5.
 - Each player will be evaluated and scored by each independent evaluator during the scrimmages.
 - Evaluators are given scoring sheets with only the players currently on the ice's Jersey numbers (no names)
 - Players receive a score 1-10 from the 4 Independent Evaluators
 - They will receive anywhere from 3-5 scores through the duration of the individual tryout session
 - Scores are presented for entry at the conclusion of each scrimmage, and are entered based on assigned Tryout Jersey Number (TJN) and totaled for an overall tryout session score
 - No names are used or associated to TJN in the data entry process
- Scores are used to divide groups moving forward.



Boys Tryout Sample Schedule



- Schedule for Group changes is subject to change based on player numbers and evaluator scoring
 - Typical Schedule for Players
 - Day 1 – All Goalies Only
 - Day 2 – All Skaters Only (Goalies and Skaters will be split into AA and General Pools by TJN after completion of Day 2)
 - Day 3 – A/AA Pool
 - Day 4 – A/AA Pool (Goalies and Skaters with lower evaluation scores will be moved to General Pool)
 - Day 5 – Possible Off Day for All Players (off days may be shuffled depending on final Ice schedule)
 - Day 6 – General Pool
 - Day 7 – General Pool and A/AA Pool Scrimmages
 - Day 8 – Squirt General Pool and A/AA Pool Scrimmages (Teams will be finalized after completion of all scheduled tryout sessions)
- Each group size is at the discretion of the Traveling Committee and the Independent Evaluators in order to facilitate a safe and competitive tryout process for all players
- Some groups may be asked to travel for an away Scrimmage at another association
 - Away Scrimmages are not scored by Evaluators



Team Selection



- Assigned Paid Coaching Staffs are allowed to Watch tryout Scrimmages, but do not have input on the Evaluator's Scoring of players
- Number of players per team is dictated by the following:
 - Number of players at that level
 - Number of teams at that level
 - District 10 policies
- Team Selection:
 - This is based on scores from the Evaluators in combination with coaching staff discretion for team needs for the skaters who may have the same score or a couple of points difference. There is no hard number but typically at least 90% (if not 100%) of the team is comprised of the top evaluated players for that level.
 - i.e. If a player scores are even, but 1 plays primarily forward and the other defense, and the team is in need of another defenseman, the coach has the option to select the defenseman to better round out the team
 - Goalies are taken based on scoring and number of goalies for teams at that level.
 - i.e. if there are 3 teams at a level and 4 goalies. 2 goalies will be paired together based on what level they scored at. So if 2 goalies scored at an A level, then they will be paired together at the A level and the two remaining goalies will be a solo goalie at the other two levels.



FAQs



- Why can't I watch my kid tryout?
 - Tryouts for any sport are stressful, having a parent, or other player's parents in the stands, adds another level of stress to the kids. The closed tryouts have also streamlined getting kids in and out in a timely manner, as well as limit any interaction between parents and evaluators. Hockey is a small world, so if evaluators are seeing parents they know it can create biased. Evaluators sit in the top row of the stands and have no interaction with the kids on or off the ice.
- Why are other parents allowed in the rink?
 - The Hockey Operations committee is responsible for facilitating tryouts, we are volunteers and hockey parents as well. We do not allow committee members to view/enter scores for groups their child(s) is part of, or be on the bench during those level scrimmages to communicate the line combinations determined by the randomizer
 - Committee member are limited to interactions with their child(s) in the lobby only



FAQs



- Why didn't my kid make the team he should have?
 - Simple answer is that he didn't score well enough to be placed on that team, or his strengths weren't quite enough to elevate them over what the team needed
 - Long answer is this is a one-week tryout, with independent evaluators to attempt to remove any bias. With that, it's a week long, and these are kids. They might not have had the best week athletically, and another kid might have played above what has been seen in the past. Will there be misses, or maybe a kid here or there evaluated incorrectly? Of Course, the evaluators are human and kids can change rapidly in a short period of time. Our only goal is to try and get kids into a place to succeed as a player and a teammate. We have used this process for a number of years now and our evaluators also evaluate for other associations. They have consistently come back and said we have one of the better tryout processes in the area, and we are incredibly proud of what CPYHA has developed for our tryout process.
 - Evaluators aren't scoring on individual skills necessarily. They aren't looking to see if a player can stop on his left foot or do a power turn to his right. They are evaluating them on how they play the game. Skills translate to game play, but they are more focused on some of the following:
 - Positioning
 - Is the player setting the pace, keeping up with the pace, or chasing the pace
 - Hockey sense; can they see passing lanes, find open ice to receive a pass, support their line mates, gap control on defense
 - For goalies; in position, following the play, correct angles, making the savable saves
 - Scoring goals is not as important as you think, they are looking for players who can play at both ends of the rink.



Note from the Boys Traveling Director



Hello Traveling Families,

My name is Kyle McDermott, I am the new Boy's Traveling Director for CPYHA. I've spent a number of years coaching hockey for CPYHA (as well as Baseball and Football in Champlin) and am also the Captain of our Fire Station here in Champlin as part of the Anoka-Champlin Fire Department. I played hockey out of Southern Minnesota, Rochester and Kasson (Dodge County), did a year of Junior A hockey and played collegiately as St. Olaf. I've spent the majority of my life at the rink as a player, coach, and now parent with 2 kids in traveling hockey this year, and with that I've gained the philosophy that my time, and our time as parents to play the game, has passed. This is no longer our game, but the kid's. My goal as traveling director and coach (and for those I've coached this is something you've heard already) is to foster the love of this great sport and for your child to enjoy the game and come back year after year. Are we going to get everything right, absolutely not, but we are going to do our best to set everyone's kids up for success as best as we can. As is the case with most sports, we are all volunteers just trying to help. The most successful associations have a couple things in common; talent goes a long way, but a sense of togetherness and family, and the notion that we are all in this together to help the kids love the game of hockey, is what makes hockey associations great. I look forward to the 25'-26' season and seeing our kids and association grow!

Thanks,

Kyle