



# Evaluations Process-2025

## Mission Statement

The goal of the Evaluation Procedure is to ensure that each skater in River Lakes Hockey is placed on a team of similar skill level to theirs to promote player development.

## Objectives for the Evaluation Procedure

- A. Provide a fair and impartial assessment of a player's total hockey skills during the evaluation process using ALL knowledge available to evaluators.
- B. Provide uniformity and consistency in the evaluation process.
- C. To have player and parent expectations consistent from year to year as players move through the various levels of the association's program.
- D. To place players on teams where they can develop and participate equitably and have fun playing hockey during the season.
- E. Make the evaluation process as efficient as possible for everyone involved in the process including skaters, families, evaluators, PDC members and board members.

## General Information

- A. Parents may not go beyond the lobby area during the evaluation sessions; lobby windows will be blocked.
- B. Any parent that does not want their skater participating on an "A" team can request an exemption (requests must be made prior to evaluations).
- C. Parents that prefer siblings on the same team may result in placement at the lower skill level team (requests must be made prior to evaluations).
- D. Players may be exempt from further evaluation sessions after the first evaluation scrimmage session if their final team placement has been determined.

## Player Selection Process

### Attendance

- A. Skaters are required to check in with a RLH Board Member at the beginning of each evaluation scrimmage session.
- B. If a skater cannot attend an evaluation session or sessions due to illness or injury, a physician's statement/slip is required for an excused absence. In the

event of a conflict for a non-injured player, excused absences will be determined by the PDC Chair, Director(s) of Hockey, and the President. These absences will be treated in the same way an injured player is treated.

- C. Players excused from Evaluations due to injury, illness, or other excused absences will be preliminarily placed on a team by the PDC based on knowledge gained from people who know the player's abilities. After a 1 week trial period, the player's position will be considered permanent if approved by the coaches of the team and the PDC. If the coaches and the PDC do not believe the player belongs where they are placed for the 1 week trial period, further discussion with the PDC will be necessary to find the appropriate team for the player.

### **Measurement and Assessment**

- A. Multiple PDC members (PDC members cannot evaluate the level in which they have a child) will evaluate each level and the goal is to also have outside evaluators (if possible, those who do not have kids in RLH). In addition, at least one (1) goalie specific evaluator will assist in evaluating the goalies.
- B. A board member will be assigned to each level to ensure transparency in the evaluation process. The board member can only be involved at levels in which their child is not participating.
- C. The evaluation process will begin with the Pre-Evaluation Camps; however, attendance is optional.
- D. At the conclusion of the Pre-Evaluations Camp, information may be compiled by the PDC from camp staff and previous coaches to provide a base structure leading into the evaluation scrimmage weekend that will guide team formation, group decision and other evaluation elements.
- E. The evaluation structure will be reviewed by the PDC on an annual basis.
- F. The Evaluation Scrimmage sessions will be a scrimmage format that will give the evaluators the opportunity to rate players in game conditions; some important factors that will be looked for in the scrimmage will include, but are not limited to:

- A. Fore-checking; ability-hustle, proper angling
- B. Back-checking; coming back hard and picking up the open player
- C. Quickness/speed
- D. Team play; make passes when necessary
- E. Positioning; player join the offensive play and cover for each other
- F. Skating ability and agility
- G. Players' ability to use hockey IQ when on and off the puck both defensively and offensively

**Skill Sets to be Evaluated for goalies:**

- A. Movement (lateral, in/out, agility)
- B. Save selection/execution
- C. Rebound control
- D. Mental focus/competitiveness
- E. Angles/square to puck

**Adjusting evaluation groups - if multiple groups are required**

- A. Groups will be reorganized based on the evaluation of the previous sessions.
- B. This will allow assessment of skills and scrimmages within each skill level and facilitate the assessment for the remaining sessions.

**Conclusion of Player Selection Process**

- a. Evaluators for each level will meet after the last evaluation session at each level and finalize team decisions.
- b. After all the evaluation sessions, the PDC meets to go over final team decisions including the number of players on each team and final roster decisions. The RLH President and Directors of Hockey will be in attendance.
- c. Coach's selection: the PDC will have open discussion on who they feel is the best candidate to coach each team.
- d. Evaluation results will be available to parents shortly after final decisions are completed. Results will be posted on the RLH website.