

SOUTH SHORE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

TRYOUT POLICY

INTRODUCTION

The following is an overview of the process aimed at assisting players and parents understand how the various steps will unfold. We strive to make it as simple, fair and seamless as possible.

Objectives of Player Evaluation

- To provide a fair, consistent and impartial assessment of a player
- To create an environment where each player has a reasonable opportunity to be selected for the level appropriate to their skill, physical maturity and ability where they may continue to grow and develop as a player;
- To establish an evaluation and selection process that provides consistent and comprehensive evaluation based upon the demonstrated skills and ability of each player;
- To inform players and parents of the expectations upon which players will be evaluated;
- To select evaluators who are objective, unbiased, free of conflict of interest, and have a thorough understanding of the Association's objectives with the tryout process; and
- To provide for the ongoing review and improvement of the player evaluation and team selection process, ensuring that the process continues to meet the demands placed upon the Association.

GENERAL

SSMHA tryout committee consist of at least 3 person which will be approve by SSMHA board

Players will be evaluated on their individual skills and game execution.

Therefore, SSMHA tryout process is broken into three parts:

- Skill Sessions;
- Intra-squad game(s) and/or Exhibition game(s).

Scores will carry forward through all the sessions and games. See the Scoring section for details.

Tryouts will be closed sessions with exception of exhibition games. Fees and Payments

To be eligible to try out for a competitive team, players must be registered by September 10th

. Applicable registration and tryout fees must be paid by the start of the player's first on-ice session.

Notice must be given (to the Tryout Committee) and approval granted by the Tryout Committee one

week before the start of tryouts for a late registration.

No refunds of the tryout fees will be given after the first ice session.

Communication

The SSMHA website is the primary means of communication during Tryouts. For example, groupings for each session will be posted on the SSMHA website.

Coaches will not contact any players until the roster is posted. Coaches will not be calling players who are released. Changes to exhibition game schedules may change the final roster release dates, if necessary.

Out of Association Players

The out of association player must be determined to be one of the top 7 forwards, top 5 defense or the top 2 goalies at SSMHA tryouts. All out of association players who are not on the Exhibition Game rosters have been released back to their home association. Calls will not be made by SSMHA directly to the players, therefore please check the SSMHA website for rosters.

Clothing / Gear

Socks – Players must wear SSMHA socks or solid colour socks. No specialty team socks permitted.

Shells – Players are not permitted to wear any specialty team hockey pant shells.

Jerseys – Players are to bring a jersey for their tryout. No special team jersey from spring hockey leagues will be permitted.

Pinnies – Numbered / coloured pinnies will be issued prior to each session.

No trading of pinnies or jerseys is permitted.

No player will be allowed on the ice without full, properly functioning, equipment, including neck guards.

Player Selection by Position

For the purposes of scoring and rating players, the Association requires that all players competing for positions on competitive teams identify the position for which they wish to compete prior to tryouts.

EVALUATION PROCESS

Evaluators are knowledgeable of the game and have limited involvement with the age group they are evaluating.

A minimum of 3 evaluators excluding the head coach after the first session, if his son or daughter is scoring high enough, will evaluate every session.

Evaluators will evaluate all players that tryout for a given position (forward, defense and goalie) for all groups of a given session.

The tryout committee may reject or reduce the value of results from an evaluator they judge blatantly biased. In such cases, the evaluator will be immediately removed from evaluating tryouts at all levels.

SSMHA will follow Hockey Canada guidelines for evaluation factors, scoring and phases.

PLAYER MANAGEMENT

Tryout Absenteeism

A player must attend at least one of the two Skill sessions.

Should a player become sick or injured, or for compassionate reasons or competing sporting events cannot attend any session(s), the player shall be scored for the sessions in which they participated and the Tryout Committee will attempt to acquire additional background information (past performance) to assist in making an appropriate ranking for the missed session(s).

If a player is unable to attend any sessions, only in extraordinary circumstances, the player may be ranked according to background information obtained by the Tryout Committee. This may include the following:

1. Where the player played last year?
2. How did he/she develop through that year?
3. How strong was the player at the end of that year relative to others on the team?
4. A discussion with previous coaches regarding other qualitative factors.

In all cases, prior notification of absenteeism, and SSMHA approval, is required for a player to be considered for a Competitive team. Failure to contact the Tryout Committee could result in a score of zero for that session(s). Contact the SSMHA Tryout Committee as soon as possible at tryouts@ssmha.com

Conflict of Interest Guidelines

A meeting of all evaluators will be held prior to the start of evaluations.

Evaluators will not be related to any players they are evaluating. Evaluators will not have any son, daughter, step son or daughter playing at that level and no grandchildren, nephew or niece trying out for the team they are evaluating.

Members of the Tryout Committee will not be in the presence of any evaluators when their child is being evaluated, regardless of their position within the Association.

Evaluators and Tryout Committee members will respect the confidentiality of the process at all times.

Evaluators are not given players' names and are not provided with the other evaluators' scores.

Scores will be inputted by two independent volunteers and cross checked for accuracy.

Appeal Process

There will be **no** appeals of the tryout selection results.

SSMHA reserves the right to change policies as they see fit with the board approval. Approved at the Board Meeting of February 26, 2020 – the following amendments will now apply to the Tryout Policy:

1 – Should a player make the final day / round of cuts and not be successful (only for SSMHA try outs). He or She will then automatically be placed on the next team down (should there be multiple rounds of tryouts), and will not be expected to tryout any further. The player may opt to participate in remaining ice sessions; however, no evaluation will be conducted. This policy only applies to SSMHA tryouts and not Regional or Elite Level programs, as per Amendment approved on August 29, 2021.

2 – South Shore Minor Hockey Association will exercise all options to have the evaluation / on-ice components of the tryout process, outsourced. If there are no external groups deemed sufficient to run the tryouts, the association will then operate the tryout sessions.

Amendment to Tryout Policy July 12, 2021:

1 – Should an elite level (ie – AAA) team conduct only 1 round of cuts, the SSMHA President will contact the coaching staff of the elite level team to review evaluation details for all SSMHA players involved. The President (in conjunction with the appropriate level coordinator and risk manager from SSMHA) will then decide if any players from SSMHA will be required to take part in the next lowest level of tryouts for the association or be automatically placed on the team. Any scores that were provided by the elite level coaches, will be given to the level coordinator and risk manager in case of further questions or concerns.

Amendment to Tryout Policy August 29, 2021

1 - Should a player make the final day / round of cuts for an **SSMHA** based team and not be successful. He or She will then automatically be placed on the next team down (should there be multiple rounds of tryouts), and will not be expected to tryout any further.

With reference to Regional / Elite tryouts - Any and all players trying out for a regional / elite level team (outside SSMHA) who are not successful, **MUST** enter and complete the SSMHA tryout process. Whether the player is affiliated or not with a regional / elite level team shall have no impact on their tryout status with SSMHA. There will be no automatic placement of players who tryout for teams outside SSMHA.

2 – Amendment from July 12, 2021 - Deleted