

Local League Team Selection Process

(approved June 2023)

General Principles

Players will be evaluated by the head coaches and at least one board appointed evaluator (who may be a board member) during the evaluation skates

Coaches and parents will not be involved in the process of team formation.

This process will be implemented for U11, U13, U15 and U18.

Following the final evaluation skate, skaters will be ranked in overall ability in sequential order from #1 on down. (ie #1-#30). Alternatively if the coaches/evaluator(s) involved prefer, skaters will be ranked in 6 evenly populated groups. Ideally the rankings list generated is the result of collaboration between coaches and evaluator(s), striving towards consensus. Ultimately the evaluator will generate the final list

Each skater will be assessed a 'competitive value' based on their ranking.

Examples (if players ranked in sequential order):

Skater #1 will be assessed a 'competitive value' of 30

Skater #12 will be assessed a 'competitive value' of 18

Skater #30 will be assessed a 'competitive value' of 1

Examples (if players ranked in groups):

Skaters in group #1 will be assessed a 'competitive value' of 6

Skaters in group #5 will be assessed a 'competitive value' of 2

Each skater will additionally be designated as top, middle or bottom third based on this ranking.

A questionnaire will be added to the registration form. It will ask two questions:

1. Does this player have a parent who is willing to volunteer as an assistant coach or trainer if asked by the head coach.
2. Does this player wish to be rostered on the same team as another specific player? If so, answer YES and type the requested player's name in the comment box.
**Note: Such requests are limited to one per player and must be reciprocated on the requested player's registration form in order to be considered.*

- Following the final evaluation skate, coaches and evaluator(s) will meet to discuss their respective rankings. Following the meeting the Evaluator(s) will begin the process of team formation.

Team Formation

- Teams will consist of an equal number of skaters. (Deviation of 1 in the event of an uneven number of participants)
- The cumulative 'competitive value' of each team should be as close to equal as reasonably possible.
- All reasonable attempts should be made to form the teams so each has an equal number of skaters from the top, middle and bottom third.
- All players who are the children of the head coach will be placed on the team of that coach
- Bench staff will be selected by the head coach AFTER the formation of teams.
- All reasonable attempts will be made to divide players in such a way to ensure the number of parents who indicated a willingness to be a member of a coaching staff are equally distributed between the teams.
- Players may request to be linked with one other player, and the request must be reciprocated to be valid.
- Player linking requests are limited to one per player.
- Any player linking request that is **mutually** made on the players' respective registration forms will be honored. Any requests made after that time will be taken in as information and are not guaranteed.
- Goalies will also be evaluated
- If no significant gap in ability exists, they will be assigned to a team with no other action necessary. The default action will be to randomly assign goalies.
- If a gap in ability exists likely to significantly alter the competitive balance of the teams does exist, or an uneven number of goalies presents, the evaluators will attempt to determine to what extent this would affect the competitive balance between the teams and endeavor to alter the balance of cumulative 'competitive value' and division of top, middle and bottom third players accordingly.
- If a player does not attend any evaluation skates, the coaches and evaluator(s) will estimate the relative skill level of the player based on prior experience and

any other information available such as, but not limited to, historic Gamesheet statistical data.

- If a player registers after the evaluation process:
 - If a team has fewer players, the player will be assigned to that team
 - If a team had a slightly lower cumulative value score, the player will be assigned to that team
 - If neither criteria apply, then the player will be assigned randomly. Each subsequent late registration will be assigned on an alternating basis between the teams.