

Plymouth Youth Hockey
2018-19
Season Tryout Process

SUMMARY NOTES (to the Tryout Process this Year-)

- G10U/Y10U through G19U/Y19U can expect a Skills/Cross-Ice session on 1 day and a Full-Ice scrimmage session on another day unless numbers dictate that only 1 day is required
- G8U/Y8U can expect a Skills session on 1 day and a Cross-Ice scrimmage session on another day unless numbers dictate that only 1 day is required
- Skills & Cross-Ice Sessions split into separate sessions but held on same night
- Tryout at all levels will not be position specific. (*Players at YU12/GU12 and up will be allowed to do the scrimmage portion of the tryout in the position they are most comfortable with if possible. However, due to number of players on each team on a particular night, they may also need to rotate through other positions as well.*)
- Scoring Scale & Evaluation criteria (see below)

THE TRYOUT PROCESS

• **The Tryout Process (All Levels)**

The tryout process has been designed to provide a fair and objective evaluation of all skaters and goalies. All skaters and goalies are required to attend their specifically assigned tryout dates. Not attending any phase of the tryout will limit the evaluation and could jeopardize a player's team placement. There are three aspects to the tryout process (please note that the G8U & Y8U level will only participate in Phase I and Phase II for tryouts. G8U/Y8U will NOT participate in Phase III):

- 1.** Phase I Skills portion concentrates on puck handling, skating and skill evaluations in a drill format.
- 2.** Phase II Cross-Ice portion concentrates on puck handling, skating, decision making and skill evaluations in small area games environment.
- 3.** Phase III focuses on overall hockey skills, with the skaters playing in a full ice scrimmage against each other, for the final session.

• **PHASE I – SKILL**

- The skating drills will focus on **balance, edge control, transition, speed and puck control.** Skills that will be evaluated during the tryout drills including (but not limited to):
 - Starts and Stops
 - Tight turns Forward
 - Tight Turns Backwards
 - Transitions/Forward to Backward
 - Stick Handling/Puck Control
 - Shooting and Passing
 - Small Area Battle Drills
- This phase of the tryout will be broken down into 3 drills which will be provided to all Coaches prior to the tryouts in order to prepare their teams.
- For **G8U & Y8U ONLY**, Skaters scores for Phase I will be tabulated and provide the basis for dividing the players into two distinct skill levels (due to number of players, Y8U may be split into more than two groups). The first group will scrimmage in the first session. Players who skate during the first session may be asked to skate in the second session as well (likewise if a

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third session is added for any particular division). A player can only participate in their specifically assigned session.

• **PHASE II – CROSS-ICE GAME**

- The cross ice game evaluation will give the evaluators an opportunity to see each player in small area game atmosphere and more time concentrating on individual play and their abilities. The following evaluation criteria will be utilized to evaluate players during the 3-vs-3 scrimmage sessions.
 - Demonstrates skills listed in Skill Sessions
 - Actively Involved in Play
 - Demonstrates positioning
 - Team Play/Decision Making

Post Phase II pairings for Phase III Scrimmage

- Skaters scores for Phase I and II will be tabulated and provide the basis for dividing the players into two distinct skill levels (due to number of players, divisions may be split into more than two groups). The first group will scrimmage in the first session. Players who skate during the first session may be asked to skate in the second session as well (likewise if a third session is added for any particular division). A player can only participate in their specifically assigned session.

• **PHASE III (Single Session in Full Ice Scrimmage Format for (G10U/Y10U) through (G19U/Y19U) Only)**

This phase is comprised of hockey full-ice scrimmages where skaters are assigned to a specific scrimmage group/night. Players will skate a number of **one-minute shifts** in a controlled atmosphere. Players will play in a number of different skater positions during the scrimmage. Players will be evaluated on individual skills and game situation skills; more emphasis will be placed on “team aspects” of play – anticipation, positional awareness and hockey instinct. *(Checking will be allowed at the Y14U/Y19U levels only, all first year Y14U’s must attend the PYH Checking clinic before tryouts).*

GOALIES (G10U/Y10U through G19U/Y19U)

{1} Note: It is the goal of PYH at to have full time goalie(s) at all levels from G10U/Y10U to G19U/Y19U. However the goalies will be placed on their appropriate skill level team. Any team with a full time goalie will play that goalie for the year and any team that does not have a full time goalie will pass the pads among the skaters or borrow from other teams.

• **The Tryout Process (Goalies)**

The tryout process has been designed to provide a fair and objective evaluation of all goalies. All goalies are expected to attend each specifically assigned tryout date. There are three aspects to the tryout process for Goalies that will be conducted over two separate sessions. Phase I – Skills, Phase II - Cross-Ice Game and Phase III Full Ice Scrimmage and will be in a combined session with skaters within each goalies respective division. Skills, Cross-Ice game and Full Ice Scrimmage sessions focus on each goalies overall skills, mobility, game situation reaction and decision making. A separate evaluation may

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be added at any specific division, as needed. If added, the evaluation session will be a Goalie only session that will concentrate on skating, mobility, positioning and skill evaluations in a drill format.

- **PHASE I - SKILLS(Combined with Skaters Ice session)**
The goalie drills will focus on mobility movement, control, coordination, positioning, stance and reflex.
- **PHASE II – CROSS ICE GAME (Combined with Skaters Ice session)**
Game situation sessions will focus on goalies overall hockey sense, skills, mobility, live game reaction and decision making in live game environment.
- **PHASE III – FULL ICE SCRIMMAGE (Combined with Skaters scheduled Scrimmage session)**
Game situation sessions will focus on goalies overall hockey sense, skills, mobility, live game reaction and decision making in live game environment.
- **“Not Scheduled” Evaluation (Single Individual Goalie Session)**
The goalie evaluation will focus on mobility, movement, control, coordination, positioning, stance and reflex. The evaluation sessions may be added to any specific division if it is deemed necessary.

FINAL TEAM PLACEMENT DETERMINATION

Final team placement is based upon a number of factors and is not based solely on the scoring component derived from the tryout sessions. The following are considered in the final placement of players.

- Tryout Scores (Scored by non-division coaches and independent scorers)
- Coaches Player Evaluation Form (Current Year Coach)
- Post-Tryout discussion with this past season’s head coaches, Tryout Committee and President.
- Fall Call-ups choices (typically 2 per team but may vary based on drops/late registration). The call ups are exclusively chosen by the appointed head coach at the start of the season in Aug/Sep.

MISSED TRYOUT

All skaters and goalies are encouraged to attend all tryout sessions, not attending either phase of the tryout will limit the evaluation and could jeopardize a player’s team placement.

SCORING SYSTEM

Evaluators will utilize a scoring scale of 1 (Always) to 6 (Never) to determine the level at which each skater demonstrates the evaluation criteria. The complete scoring scale and descriptions are as follows:

- 1 (one) – Always
 - Exceptional at the respective level (i.e. Y10U). There is little room for improvement. Extremely developed. Upper 15% of the players at respective level.
- 2 (two) – More Often

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- Above Average at the respective level. There is some room for improvement but at the upper 30% of the level with skill set.
- 3 (three) – Sometimes
 - Average at the respective level. There is room for improvement but considered in the upper middle of the level with skill set.
- 4 (four) – Few Times
 - Average at the respective level. There is room for improvement and considered in the lower middle of the level with skill set.
- 5 (five) – Rarely
 - Below Average at respective level. There is significant improvement needed and considered in the lower 30% of the level with skill set
- 6 (six) – Never
 - Deficient at respective level. There is significant improvement needed and considered in the lower 15% of the level with skill set

EVALUATORS

PYH will utilize PYH coaches and independent scorers outside the organization to score players. Scorers will not evaluate a division in which they have a child participating except a goalie parent can score players. An individual group of scorers will evaluate all tryout sessions for a given age group, the Skills and Cross Ice sessions as well as the Scrimmage sessions when possible. This is a large time commitment and these are all volunteers so there is the potential for a scenario where a scorer will not be able to make it to a particular night and PYH will do their best to find a suitable replacement.

● **EVALUATION CRITERIA - SKATERS**

Evaluators will evaluate players in two broad categories at each session, using the scoring system of 1-6 listed above. The lowest attainable score in category is 1 (best) and the highest attainable is a 6.

- SKILLS SESSION

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- **Skating Skills** – Demonstrates forward & backward skating skills; Uses Edges; Ability to make tight turns; Crosses over skating forward & backward; Skates with speed and under control; Able to stop & change direction
- **Hockey Skills** - Demonstrates skills such as puck control, puck handling, sound passing & shooting.

- **CROSS-ICE SESSION**
 - **Skating Skills** - Demonstrates forward & backward skating skills; Uses Edges; Ability to make tight turns; Crosses over skating forward & backward; Skates with speed and under control; Able to stop & change direction; Sound Passing & Shooting skills
 - **Hockey Sense** – Team-player; Makes good decision; Gets to the puck first & is actively involved in the action of the game; Positional play.

- **SCRIMMAGE SESSION**
 - **Skating Skills** - Demonstrates forward & backward skating skills; Uses Edges; Ability to make tight turns; Crosses over skating forward & backward; Skates with speed and under control; Able to stop & change direction; Sound Passing & Shooting skills
 - **Hockey Sense** Understands the concept of space & position; Makes good decision; Team-player; Ability to get to puck and flow with the game; Actively involved in the action of the game;

Generally, the weighting of each of these categories will change at each level with the change in the style of play. For example, at the Y10U level, skating and basic hockey skills will be weighted more than at the upper levels where teamwork and situational play become more important as a skill.

- **EVALUATION CRITERIA - GOALIES**

PYH hires MassCrease to score our goalies during tryouts. MassCrease submits their final scores and rankings to PYH at the conclusion of tryouts. PYH will sometimes also have another scorer evaluate the goalies in order to break a tie in ranking if one occurs. Goalies will be scored on the following skills:

- **Skating Skills/Movement** - Age appropriate mobility forwards, backwards and side to side
- **Rebounds/Puck Control** - Rebound control, stick handling skills.
- **Glove/Blocker Saves** - Age appropriate use of both hands.
- **Stick/Pad Saves** - Age appropriate use of both legs and stick.
- **Position/Stance** - Proper stance and positioning in the net (i.e. not too deep in net)
- **Team Play/Decision Making** - Good hockey instincts, Ability to read developing play; Aggressiveness; Anticipates opponents and teammates next move.

POST TRYOUT DISCUSSION

- Meeting for each division after all tryouts are complete – no later than Friday May 11th

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- Tryout Committee will select the necessary head coaches to attend the meetings. In the event the head coach is not available they may choose to send an assistant coach in his or her place.
- Attendees will review the following data and have discussion moderated by Tryout Coordinator
 - Rankings from Scrimmage (weight 50%)
 - Rankings from Skills and Cross-Ice (weight 50%)
 - Overall Rankings
 - Coaches Player Evaluations (current year coach input)
- After discussion attendees will mutually agree on final ranking

TEAM SELECTION

- Final rankings will be reviewed by division and tryout coordinators
- Division and tryout coordinator provide final Team recommendations to the BOD
 - Initially 2 spots will be made available for coach fall call ups, the number of call ups may change as a result of registration adds or drops
- BOD approves final teams
- Coach interview and selection

INITIAL ROSTER

- Announced as soon as possible after the completion of coaches meeting and ratification by the BOD, but no later than Monday May 28th
- Posted to website

ROSTER LOCK (\$250 roster lock Payment due by June 15th)

- \$250 must be paid to secure spot on initial roster- players not paid may be shifted to wait list and paid wait list players may be added to roster
- Adjusted rosters will be announced no later than Friday July 20th

FALL CALL UPS

- Completed no later than Friday September 7th