

## **Player Evaluation Rules**

### **Cleveland Heights Hockey League**

Document draft v. 5

#### **1. Purpose of Evaluations**

1. To place each player on a team that will provide the player with the best opportunity for a successful season.
2. To allocate players to teams to provide the best opportunity for each team, and the program as a whole, to have a successful season.

#### **2. Eligibility**

1. Returning CHHL players must be in good standing with the league. To be in good standing, players must:
  1. be current on all fees.
  2. not be subject to a disciplinary penalty.
2. Players switching to CHHL from another CSHL program must obtain a release from the previous program prior to beginning preseason play.
3. New players must have sufficient basic hockey skills to play travel hockey, as determined by the CHHL's team coaches at the player's age level and the Head of Program.
4. All players are required to attend one evaluation session. Players who do not attend one evaluation session will be placed on the lower team in their age division. Exceptions to this rule will be made on an individual basis for players with extenuating circumstances, such as illness. Requests for exceptions must be made in writing to the Head of Program.

#### **3. Timing of Evaluations**

1. Evaluations will occur annually in August after the conclusion of preseason conditioning.
2. If teams wish to hold spring evaluations, a request must be made in writing to the Head of Program in time to be approved prior to the end of the Cleveland Suburban Hockey League (CSHL) regular season.

#### **4. Playing up**

1. The CHHL and the City of Cleveland Heights strongly recommend that players do not play in an age division above that set up by USA Hockey, CSHL, and CHHL rules and guidelines. The interests of children are best served when they play with others of a similar age level, ability level, and emotional and maturity level. Children playing up must be able to make the top team of the older age division.
2. Parents who want their child to play in a division above the division recommended by the CHHL may petition to the Head of Program in writing, no later than the start of evaluations. The Head of Program will submit all such requests to a review committee. The review committee will observe each player at evaluations at both the player's age division and the requested older age division. The review committee will also talk to the player, the parents, and the coaches at each age division, before rendering a written recommendation to the Head of Program no later than four days after the end of evaluations.
3. The review committee should consider the following criteria:
  1. Hockey skills—skating, puck handling, passing, etc.
  2. Physical attributes—size, strength, etc.
  3. Emotional and maturity level.
  4. Registration numbers in the divisions affected by the request(s).
4. Players may not play in a younger age division than that recommended by the CHHL guidelines, except under exceptional circumstances (e.g. American Disabilities Act considerations).

#### **5. Selection of Teams**

1. Hockey is a team sport and selecting players solely based on their individual skills does not always make the best team. Team selections will include individual skill evaluations, but will also include intangibles. Coaches will make selections based on the best overall fit for the team,

and will include information obtained from evaluation session evaluators, player and parent references, current and previous coaches' input, and parental expectations and commitment.

2. Objective data about each player will be compiled by coaches during evaluations. This data will include:
  1. Skating skills
  2. Puck handling skills
  3. Shooting skills
  4. Game knowledge
3. Coaches, with consultation of the coaching coordinator and coaching committee, will preselect drills upon which to assess each player. Three coaches will each independently evaluate each player's performance on each drill. The player will be given an objective score on each drill. The evaluation forms will also include space for coaches to provide subjective comments about a player. A synopsis of the evaluations will be made available to each player after evaluations, and the original will be kept in the player's file.
4. Evaluations will be run by coaches with direct observation by the Head of Program.
5. At the end of evaluations, coaches will make their team selections and present them to the Head of Program for approval. The Head of Program has the final say on rosters and the obligation to ensure that teams in each age division have an adequate number of players. Coaches should be prepared to provide a detailed explanation of their selections.
6. It should be the understanding of the coaches and Head of Program that one goal of the program is the retention of players, and for this reason preference, in the case of otherwise equivalent evaluations, will be given to returning players.
7. It should be the understanding of the coaches and Head of Program that because the program is operated by the City of Cleveland Heights, preference, in the case of otherwise equivalent evaluations, will be given to Cleveland Heights residents.