

# WSMHA Player Evaluations 2024-25 Season

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Q – Which age groups try out in the Spring (April/May) and which are in the Fall (September)?**

For the 2024-2025 season, WSMHA Representative Team Evaluations are split between Spring and Fall as follows:

**U10, U11, U12, U13, U14, U15 and U16** - Spring 2024

AA Starting Week of April 27, 2024

A Starting Week of May 4, 2024

**U18** - Fall 2024 (August)

**U8, U9** – Fall 2024 (September)

**Select Player Evaluations for all ages** - Fall 2024 (September / October)

### **Q – How do Rep Evaluations work?**

Representative team tryouts follow a sequential release process by which teams are selected by level, starting at AAA and continuing through AA, A and BB

### **Q – What are "Prep Skates" and how do they work for the U8, 9, 10, & 11 age groups?**

Prep Skates are required to be provided to players to allow them to get back on the ice and be ready for the official start of Evaluations. Each age group is provided 4 prep skates for the players to get back on the ice and be prepared for the start of the evaluation tryout skates.

These skates are mandatory for the association to offer. They are not mandatory to attend, but the cost for tryouts include these skates.

Select Evaluations for any age group do not have prep skate sessions prior to tryouts.

### **Q - Who may attend Rep tryouts?**

There are several categories of players who are able to attend Rep Team Tryouts.

NRP Players (Non-Resident Players): At the U12 age group and above, WSMHA is able to accept up to 3 Zone Players to each AA team. Players must live in the designated boundaries established by the OMHA in order to qualify. NRP players must be pre-registered with their home centre for the upcoming season and present the NRP passport in advance of attending tryouts.

Residents of Whitchurch-Stouffville (WSMHA): All returning players from the previous season that were registered with WSMHA, Rep or House League programs or new Whitchurch-Stouffville residents can attend evaluations.

### **Q - How do I obtain a PTS or any other Request for Player Movement out of WSMHA?**

All player movement requests must be submitted through the WSMHA website. The form is located at: [AAA Permission to Skate Forms \(Whitchurch Stouffville Minor Hockey Association\) \(wsmha.com\)](http://AAA Permission to Skate Forms (Whitchurch Stouffville Minor Hockey Association) (wsmha.com))

No requests will be taken over the phone, by email or in person. Requests will be reviewed by WSMHA staff in consultation with team coaches as appropriate. PTS forms will be provided within 48 hours of submission.

### **Q – How many sessions for Rep Evaluations will there be and when do the players show up?**

Every parent and player should be aware prior to evaluations of the number of opportunities that the player will have to be assessed. The full tryout schedule will be posted on the WSMHA website when finalized but is always subject to modifications. Within that schedule, the Head Coach has the flexibility to determine when different players will attend their tryout, and specific details will be confirmed by the Head Coach ahead of time to all players.

NOTE – Parents please note that it is mandatory for Players to attend AA & A Evaluation sessions

### **Q – What is being Evaluated?**

Player selection criteria are specific to age and level and shall be evaluated using drills that aim to allow players to demonstrate specific skills, tactics, behaviours and overall hockey knowledge and intellect.

### **Q - Who will perform the Player Evaluations and how are they used in the selection process?**

Off-ice evaluators will be responsible for evaluating every player on the ice during the time allotted. Evaluators may include:

- Rep Team Head Coach
- 1 or more Evaluators of the Head Coach's choosing who have attested to not having a conflict of interest in the same age group
- Independent Evaluators assigned by WSMHA

### **Q – What should my son/daughter wear to the Evaluation?**

Full equipment is always mandatory. Players will be assigned and provided with a numbered Evaluation jersey.

### **Q – Will players be Evaluated in both skill evaluation and game environment?**

For those Players advancing through all stages of the Evaluation process there will be an opportunity to exhibit the range of skills that they possess in both skill evaluation and game settings. The breakdown of skill and game situation evaluations will be determined by the Head Coach.

**Q – How will players be notified of their standing within the Evaluation process?**

Players will be informed of their status via communication from the Head Coach.

Questions regarding the selection results may be submitted via email to the Head Coach. The Head Coach will answer this email within one week's time frame.

**Q – What happens after the final Evaluation session?**

Upon the completion of the final Evaluation session, each remaining candidate will either be offered a roster spot on the team or asked to begin the Evaluation at the next level. Due to unneeded stress for the Player, parents and coaches, the coach may decide to simply finalize the roster online and set up a team meeting or do a face-to-face meeting with the remaining candidates and their parent or guardian.

Any player refusing a Rep position offered by the coach will be reviewed by WSMHA and may be prevented from attending any further Evaluations.

**Q – What happens with a player that is not selected for a team?**

Players who are not selected for a specific team will be instructed to check the Player Evaluation schedule for the next level. To continue in the Evaluation process, players must then attend the first session for the next level to be considered for that team.

Players who are not selected for a BB team or the lowest level rep team will automatically be placed on a House League team for the next season and will be notified via email of team placement in the Fall prior to the start of the season. These players will also be invited to the Player Evaluations for the Select team and can register for the Select Evaluations after BB releases have taken place. Select Evaluations will take place in the Fall.

Questions regarding an individual's evaluation may be submitted to the Head Coach via email following the end of the Evaluation process. The Head Coach should respond within one week after the conclusion of tryouts for that team.

**Q – What level is a player required to try-out for to play on a given team?**

Whitchurch-Stouffville is a AA Centre. Players therefore enter the Evaluation process at AA and will participate in A and BB based on Team Selections:

**AA** – A player must start at AA Evaluations. If the player is not selected for the AA team, he/she can continue through A and BB levels.

**A** – Players released from AA must participate in the A Evaluations. If the Player is not selected for the A team, he/she may continue to level BB (if available) and/or be placed in House League and are invited to Player Evaluations for Select (Fall).

All players are encouraged to tryout at their highest possible level for their skill set

**Q - Is a player required to try out for Rep to be placed on a House League Team?**

No, players who do not wish to participate in the Rep program may register directly for House League and are guaranteed placement on a team in the fall. WSMHA does reserve the right to choose to offer a Select team at the various levels or not.

**Q – What happens if a player is sick or injured during Evaluations?**

Players unable to attend Evaluation Sessions must present to the Head Coach and the Director of Rep Hockey a doctor's note specifying that the player is physically unable to participate during Evaluations. The note must include a suggested date for the player to be able to return to competitive play.

In this scenario, a player may be evaluated for selection to a team based on what may already be known about that player's abilities. These situations are always unique and will be addressed individually by the Head Coach and the WSMHA Director of Rep Hockey to ensure that each player is provided with an opportunity for selection whenever possible.

**Q – What happens if a player is away during Evaluations?**

Players must attend Evaluations to be eligible to be carded to a WSMHA team. Exemptions from participating in an Evaluation must be requested and granted in advance by the Head Coach and the Director of Rep Hockey. The Head Coach and Director of Rep Hockey are not obligated to grant any exemption request. Should a player miss an Evaluation without an approved exemption, WSMHA reserves the right to allow or disallow that player to be rostered for Rep hockey for the next season.

**Q – Are players permitted to play a year above their eligibility?**

Any player wishing to try out for a team above his/her proper age group is eligible to try out for the highest level of team being offered at that age group. If he/she fails to make that team, they must return to their proper age group.

Where a player is trying out at a division higher than their age group, the player must be evaluated to be in the top 3 players for the highest-level team in that higher age group based on skill and ability (not on player game statistics).

Players wishing to play in a division above their age category **MUST** email the Director of Rep Hockey indicating their intentions no later than April 15<sup>th</sup>. If the movement is at a coach's request, the coach must first notify the Director of Rep Hockey prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> tryout.

**Q - How many players will each team carry?**

All Rep teams carry a minimum of seventeen (17) players (15 skaters and 2 goalies) unless otherwise approved by the WSMHA Board.