



PLAYER EVALUATION CRITERIA

This list is intended to provide information on the criteria the White Hawk coaching staff will use to evaluate candidates for our high school teams (Varsity And JV).

Players will be evaluated during scrimmages held during the first three days of our season. Scrimmages create the best environment to evaluate players in game like conditions. Roster decisions will be made by our coaching staff. In addition to the criteria below, overall team make up will be considered. Coaches may also rely on past experiences with a player.

Areas of evaluation:

1. Character/Competitive Spirit
 - Places team play and success above personal goals, is unselfish
 - Feels personally responsible for the team result, no matter the result or what his role is in it
 - Consistent in effort
 - Performs based on internal standards and character, not external stimuli
 - Competes in individual battles – takes it personally
 - Is coachable– listens, adapts, is respectful
 - Is committed to defending (backchecks, blocks shots, closes gaps)
 - Physical play – willing and able to engage physically, regardless of size
 - Supports his teammates, is positive with them
 - Does not harm team by taking unnecessary and/or selfish penalties
2. Skill
 - Skating
 - i. How well do they move to accomplish the specific needs of their role
 - ii. Acceleration and ability to move quickly in tight areas v. overall speed
 - iii. Stright line quickness/speed
 - iv. Balance and strength on skates, including when physically contested
 - v. Ability to change direction
 - vi. Defenseman
 1. Lateral movement and balance
 2. Ability to stay in front of players while defending against speed
 3. Time and space elimination (gap)
 - Ability to play with the puck on their stick (stickhandling)
 - i. Can handle puck at high speed
 - ii. Head is up – has vision and can see plays develop while in possession

- iii. Puck protection
 - iv. Can buy time with the puck, execute in traffic and still make plays while absorbing pressure or contact
 - Passing
 - i. Makes hard, flat passes
 - ii. Catches passes, even when not on target
 - iii. Can make and catch passes with both sides of blade (forehand and backhand)
 - Shooting
 - i. Accuracy
 - ii. Strength
 - iii. Can shoot while moving
 - Hard v. soft skill
 - Doesn't feel need to get rid of puck before or when pressured
 - Can execute in the hard areas of the rink
 - Ability to execute is not limited to open ice situations
 - Fitness level – pace of play does not drop at end of shift or late in games/practices/scrimmages
3. Hockey Sense
- Understands the whole game, not just his/her role in it
 - Knows where to be in all situations
 - Has a feel for what should be happening in all situations
 - Does not change based on pressure and circumstances
 - Anticipates play
 - Supports teammates
 - Communicates with teammates
 - Forwards (indicators)
 - i. Consistently inserts him/herself into the action, making the game go through him/her
 - ii. Does not spend time observing, on outside
 - iii. Has impact even without the puck
 - iv. Is engaged for faceoffs and line changes
 - Defenseman (indicators)
 - i. Can sort things with and without the puck
 - ii. Plays with conviction in all zones
 - iii. Confidence and authority with gap control
 - iv. Moves puck to others with authority
 - v. Asserts him/herself into offense when appropriate
4. Goalies
- Skating and movement – agility, ability to move in all directions, recovery quickly
 - Positioning, depth
 - Rebound control
 - Save selection
 - Is ready when pucks are shot
 - Tracks puck at all times, works hard to find pucks in traffic
 - Strength and power
 - Competitive attitude
 - Work ethic

- Ability to play puck with stick – stop rims, pass, glass and out
- Hockey sense
 - i. Understands the whole game, not just his role in it
 - ii. Anticipates