

Blaine Youth Hockey Association

Traveling Specific Procedures,
Responsibilities and Rules

Issued July 31, 2018



BLAINE YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

9250 LINCOLN STREET NE | BLAINE MN 55434 | BYHA.ORG

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1. BYHA Traveling Tryout General Information

- 1.1. The tryout schedule will be posted on the BYHA website at the time of tryouts.
- 1.2. Tryouts will be closed to everyone other than the Evaluators, BYHA Operations Committee members, BYHA Board members, and approved tryout volunteers. The arena, locker room area, and any common areas that have access to tryout rink need to be vacated by the time the skaters go on the ice. Tryout volunteers are not allowed in any area where scores are being tallied or maintained.
- 1.3. Schedule changes will be posted on the BYHA website in a timely manner. Traveling players and parents are encouraged to check for schedule changes daily.
- 1.4. Any player who is unable to participate in any portion of the tryout process must contact the appropriate Traveling Director immediately. If the absence is due to an injury, a written note from the player's attending physician indicating the type of injury, treatment plan, and estimated time of recovery must also be provided to the Traveling Director. The player will be evaluated based on prior year's performance and past coaches' recommendations to determine team placement.
- 1.5. All hockey program branding and player names must be removed from equipment prior to tryouts (i.e. names on helmets, all stickers, jerseys or socks from a "select" team, etc).
- 1.6. Players selected to be on an "A/AA" team are compelled to play on that team unless it is felt that undue hardship is being placed on the player or parents. In that case, the parents must declare their intentions/justification prior to tryouts so the BYHA Board has time to consider the request.
- 1.7. If siblings want to play on the same team, they must inform the Director of this preference prior to tryouts. This will only be considered if the players are at the same level of skill.
- 1.8. It is recommended that all teams at all levels have a minimum of 13-15 skaters and 2 goalies on the roster if possible.
- 1.9. If there are not enough players to adequately fill a complete team, the Board will consult with the coaches at that level to determine the minimum numbers their team could have to safely compete for the full season. If there is not a minimum amount of BYHA players, BYHA will make every attempt to find additional players or find another association where excess players can waive-in and participate.
- 1.10. No Parent will be allowed on the ice at the same time as their child is participating in tryouts, with the exception of Head Coaches.



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- 1.11. Players who do not want to be evaluated for potential placement on a BYHA “A” pool traveling team, are not required to participate prior to the “A” pool selection sessions. However, it is mandatory that a player participate in the “B” pool portion of the tryouts in order to determine proper team placement. Any skater not participating in tryouts will be placed at the lowest level of play.
- 1.12. Based on registered players participating in tryouts and number of designated teams per age level, the BYHA Operations Committee will determine prior to the start of tryouts if any cuts will need to be made. The projected number of cuts, if necessary, will be posted at the time of tryouts. In addition, evaluators may excuse players from participating in the remainder of a tryout schedule. This must be done discreetly and not in the middle of a tryout session. The Traveling Director will contact the player outside of the tryout session.
- 1.13. If needed, a similar tryout process may be held for the 16U and Junior Gold teams. This determination will be made by the BYHA Operations Committee and Traveling Director.

2. Evaluation Committee

- 2.1. The Operations Committee and the Traveling Directors will oversee the evaluation committee and coordinate the tryout process. They will abide by the BYHA policies.
- 2.2. The Evaluation Committee for the Squirt, Peewee, and Bantam levels will consist of the Head Coach(es) of each level and an outside evaluation organization or personnel as selected by the BYHA Operations committee. The goalies will be evaluated by an outside organization in separate goalie sessions as well as during each levels’ tryouts.
- 2.3. Evaluators should not be involved in evaluating their child, with the exception of selected Head Coaches for that level.
- 2.4. Evaluators will limit contact to other evaluators, coaches, and parents to ensure they make independent and uninfluenced decisions while scoring players.
- 2.5. During evaluation review (to determine “A” pool or player placement) the only people allowed to participate in the decision-making meetings are:
 - 2.5.1. Traveling Director – to facilitate scoring/selection process and ensure fair discussion/decisions are being made.
 - 2.5.2. Head Coach – to help decide which players make the “A” pool or team.
 - 2.5.3. Evaluators – to help decide which players make the “A” pool or team.
 - 2.5.4. Other BYHA Board Members – to facilitate discussions and decisions regarding pool or team placement and post/communicate the final results.



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2.6. Evaluators will use the supplied scorecard to record their evaluations of the players and will turn in the scorecards to the Traveling Director at the end of each tryout session. Electronic scoring devices may also be used.

3. Tryout Process

- 3.1. The format of tryouts will be a combination of skills assessment and game play. Each session will have a warm up using skill-related drills and the remainder of time spent scrimmaging (5 on 5, 4 on 4, etc.).
- 3.2. The first will involve evaluating players based on the criteria established by the BYHA Operations Committee. Goalies will have an additional skills session that is included in the overall judging/ranking.
- 3.3. At the conclusion of the last session in the choosing of the A pool, and following a review of each player's evaluations by the Evaluation Committee, the BYHA Traveling Director will identify and prepare the "A" pool list. (For purposes of this Section, "A" pool is defined as the highest level of play for each classification)
 - 3.3.1. The "A" pool list will be based on total score for each player. The A pool will consist of the number of skaters to be placed on the A/AA teams, plus 5. One player may be chosen by the head coach of the A/AA teams. Number of goalies will be 2 for each A/AA teams, plus 1 if possible.
 - 3.3.2. The "A" pool list will be posted on the website within 24 hours of the last pool selection session.
 - 3.3.3. The identified players for the "A" pool will participate in additional sessions administered by the BYHA Operations Committee, Evaluation Committee and Head Coach(es) for that level.
 - 3.3.4. Tryouts may or may not include scrimmages with other associations.
 - 3.3.5. Following the completion of these sessions, the Evaluation Committee will select the final roster for the respective "A" team. The placement of players will be based on the total score from the "A" pool session. Based on the number of players to be assigned to the "A/AA" team, the top 8-10 skaters and the top goalie will be on the "A" team. The Head Coach of the team is then allowed to select the additional 5 players and 1 goalie (if a second goalie is to be assigned) from the "A" pool.
 - 3.3.6. The final "A/AA" team list will be posted on the website within 24 hours (this list will be identified in non-ranking order).



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- 3.3.7. Players not selected for the “A/AA” team from the “A” pool will be placed on the next highest team at that level (e.g. A or B1).
- 3.4. The “B” pool players will skate additional sessions under the direction of the BYHA Operations Committee, Evaluation Committee and Head Coach(es) for that level. For purposes of this section, “B pool” means all remaining players not in the A pool.
- 3.5. In the event that there is not a A/B1 coach identified, the BYHA Operations Committee will appoint a replacement evaluator for the remaining sessions.
- 3.6. At the conclusion of the final session, and following a review of each player’s evaluations by the Evaluation Committee, the BYHA Traveling Director will identify and prepare the “A/B1” final team lists, “B1/B2” final team lists, and any players being assigned to the “C” team. If there are multiple teams at the same level, they will be split evenly by skill. The placement of players will be based on the total score from the “B” pool sessions. The top 4-6 skaters will be on the “A/B1” team. The Head Coach of the “A/B1” team is then allowed to select the additional 4 skaters from the “B” pool. Goalies will be placed on teams based on their tryout ranking. In the event a team is allocated two goalies, the head coach may have discretion in selecting the second goaltender from the pool of available players.
- 3.7. The final team lists will be posted on the website within 24 hours following the last tryout session for that pool.

4. Evaluation of Players

- 4.1. An assigned numbered tryout jersey will be provided for the use during tryouts. Do not change jerseys during the tryout process unless requested by one of the Evaluators or the Traveling Director. The jerseys worn for tryouts need to be returned at the end of the tryout process.
- 4.2. The skaters will be marked on check sheets for every shift they skate during the tryouts by volunteers running the box.
- 4.3. Judging criteria for the players.
 - 4.3.1. Skaters will be evaluated on the following: skating, passing, shooting, puck control, overall play/positioning (with and without the puck) and hustle/effort.
 - 4.3.2. Goalies will be evaluated on the following: angles, puck control/rebounds, skating abilities and overall play/positioning.

5. Selecting Teams and Communication

- 5.1. All final teams will be posted on the BYHA website within 24 hours of the last tryout session.



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- 5.2. After team selections are made, coaches have the final decision in determining a player's playing position for the season (excluding goalies).
- 5.3. Any concerns players/parents have about the tryout process will be required to be submitted in writing to the attention of the BYHA Traveling Director after the 24 hour waiting period has expired. All written reports submitted will be reviewed at the next scheduled BYHA Board meeting.

6. BYHA Girls Traveling Tryouts

- 6.1. BYHA will attempt to field the following teams each season: 10UA, 10UB, 12UA, 12UB, 15U.
- 6.2. The number and size of the girl's teams will be determined based on registration numbers. If there are not enough girls to fill a team at any specified level, the association will make every effort to find additional players or find another association where BYHA players can participate.
- 6.3. BYHA policy is that girls are not encouraged to play on the youth traveling boy's teams. However, since Minnesota Hockey permits such play, girls requesting to tryout for a boys traveling team must comply with the following;
 - 6.3.1. Declare intentions prior to the start of tryouts.
 - 6.3.2. Complete the necessary waiver of liability forms.
 - 6.3.3. Forfeit current season's eligibility to play Girls Traveling.

7. Tournament Entries

- 7.1. If BYHA hosts a tournament for a given level of players, then all teams at that level must participate in this tournament. The Board will make every attempt to allow these teams to participate at a reduced cost.
- 7.2. The team parents will be obliged to volunteer to work during these tournaments or they will lose their reduced fee or could also be charged for workers expenses incurred to replace them.

8. Coordinators

- 8.1. The BYHA Traveling Director can appoint volunteers to serve as age group coordinators for the respective traveling age groups (Squirt, Peewee, Bantam) for the season with such appointments to be approved by the board. The coordinators will be designated as the communication liaison for the respective age group and will be the first point of contact for any issue or questions members may have relative to program administration for the traveling



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program. The coordinators will make a concerted effort to periodically visit team coaches; discuss any issues that occur during the course of the year and communicate same to the Traveling Director. The BYHA Board Members and Coordinators will assist in securing volunteers as requested by the Traveling Director.

Revision History

Revision/ Date	Description of Change	Originator of Change
2018-07-31	Converted to new format for 2018-19 season	JSM