



GMHA Player Evaluation / Tryout Guidelines

The Guelph Minor Hockey Association (**GMHA**) Representative Team Tryouts will begin April 16th for the following ages and divisions: Novice to Minor Midget AAA – AE. ***Please visit the website regularly as the schedule for tryouts may change.***

Major Midget tryouts will be held in the fall. Passes for these players will be made available early August.

Tryout Cost

All players that tryout out for Rep teams will be required to purchase a Rep Tryout Pass. Purchasing in advance is not only less expensive but it allows for the coaches to see the names in advance and understand who is trying out for their teams.

Advance cost is **\$80 Atom to Midget AAA** and **\$60 Novice to Midget AA-AE**. All returning GMHA players are strongly encouraged to purchase in advance. Advance sales will open online **March 26th and will close April 9th end of business day**. Pricing after April 9th will be **\$120**. **Credit and debit will be the only method of payments accepted – NO CASH AT DOOR.**

We encourage Zone players to purchase a tryout pass as they will also be able to try out for both AAA and AA (depending on where you are from and with the proper paperwork).

F1 Waivers, Zone players and NRPs may purchase single tryout passes for **\$20** per skate at the door (debit/credit only) with a maximum \$80 cost.

Objectives of Player Evaluation

- ❖ To provide a fair and impartial assessment of a player's total hockey skills.
- ❖ To ensure that players have a reasonable opportunity of being selected to a team appropriate to their skill level as determined during the on-ice evaluations of the current year.
- ❖ To provide coaches with the opportunity and flexibility to build a team based in part on their coaching philosophy and knowledge of player skills and attitude.
- ❖ To provide uniformity and consistency in the evaluation process such that player and parent expectations are consistent from year to year as players move through the various levels of the association's program.
- ❖ To form teams to maintain balanced and competitive play where the athletes can develop and participate equitably and have fun playing hockey during the season.
- ❖ To provide feedback in order to promote player development.



Common Tryout Questions

Who may attend tryouts?

Zone Players: The Guelph Zone includes Woolwich, Centre Wellington and Arthur. Players must present a Permission to Skate form signed by the proper authority within their home centre. No player will be allowed to skate or tryout without this consent form.

F1 Waivered Players: GMHA accepts F1 Waivered players. These players are only allowed to tryout at the AAA level. If they are released they must go back to their home centre. Original documentation, including the necessary number of waivers required must be presented to the GMHA representatives before the first tryout. Players must also bring a copy of their birth certificate.

NRP Players (Non Resident Players): Under the OMHA rules, Guelph will accept a NRP player for teams at the level of Minor Peewee and above. The maximum number allowed is 3 NRP players per roster. 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 to be validated by the GMHA representative at the first tryout.

Residents of Guelph (Guelph Centre): All returning players from the previous season that were registered with GMHA, Rep or House League programs or new Guelph Centre residents are able to attend tryouts provided they have purchased a Rep Tryout Pass.

How do I obtain an F1 waiver, NPR pass or any other Request for Player Movement out of Guelph?

Any player movement request must be completed on the GMHA website. The form is located under the Rep Hockey tab/General Forms/Request for Player Movement. The form must be completely filled out and submitted. No requests will be taken over the phone, by email or in person. In most cases the decision/approval will be completed within 24 hours.

How many evaluation sessions 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 GMHA tryout schedule will be posted on the GMHA website when finalized but is always subject to modifications. The Rep Coach has the flexibility to schedule when the players attend their tryout. They will communicate this to the player by way of email or phone call if the player has pre-purchased a tryout pass. Parents are to assume that they attend the first tryout unless they hear otherwise from the Head Coach.

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.

Who will perform the player evaluations and how are they used in the selection process?

Off-ice evaluators will be responsible to evaluate every player on the ice during the time allotted. Evaluators generally include: Head Coach, evaluators of the Head Coach's choosing, and Independent Evaluators assigned by GMHA for parent coaches and staff officials.

What should my son/daughter wear to the evaluation?

Full equipment is always mandatory. Players will be assigned and provided a numbered jersey. To help fairness and transparency evaluators will only be provided with the players' jersey numbers and will not be provided with players' names or other identifiers.



GMHA Player Evaluation / Tryout Guidelines

Will players be evaluated in both skill evaluation and game environment?

For those players advancing through all stages of the tryout 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.

How will players be notified of their standing within the tryout process?

Players will be informed of their status by accessing the teams' website via a coach provided password. The results will be posted within 4 hours of the conclusion of the tryout session. 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.

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 tryout 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 the GMHA and may be prevented from attending any further tryouts. Players/parents that have signed and agreed to play with a team agree to register and pay in full the base fee to GMHA. Failure to do so will result in an automatic suspension to the player.

What happens with a player is not selected for a team?

Players who are not selected for a team will be instructed to check the tryout schedule for the next level and must attend the first session for that level to be considered for that team. Players who are not selected for an AE 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. Questions regarding an individual's evaluation may be submitted to the Head Coach via email following a tryout. The Head Coach should respond within one week after the conclusion of tryouts for that team.

What level is a player required to try out for to play on a given team?

Guelph is a AAA zone and a AA centre. Players may declare not to tryout at the AAA level but must start at the AA unless they have GMHA and AA Coach approval. All players are encouraged to tryout at their highest possible level for their skill set.

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. GMHA does reserve the right to choose to offer a Select team at the various levels or not.

What happens if a player is sick or injured during tryouts?

Players unable to try out 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 the tryouts. The note must include a suggested date for the player to be able to return to competitive play.

What happens if a player is away during tryouts?

Players must attend tryouts to be eligible to be carded to a GMHA team. Exemptions from participating in a tryout 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 a tryout without an approved exemption, GMHA reserves the right to allow or disallow that player to be carded for Rep hockey for the next season.



GMHA Player Evaluation / Tryout Guidelines

What do you do if the player wants to play at a year above his/her eligibility?

Any player wishing to try out for a team above his/her proper age group is eligible to try out for the first entry team only. If he/she fails to make that team they must return to the proper age group. Where a player is playing at a division higher than their age group, the player must be evaluated to be in the top 5 players for the highest division based on skill and ability and not solely on player game statistics. Players wishing to play in a division above their age category must email the Director of Rep indicating their intentions no later than April 1st. If the movement is at a coach's request, the coach must first notify the Director of Rep prior to the 1st tryout. Head Coaches are not to speak to the player directly. Parents may not approach a coach to discuss movement of their child.

How many players will each team carry?

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