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#### Introduction

At Valley Wild we strive to have a consistent, fair, and transparent evaluation process as possible. We understand that this is a stressful time for everyone involved and will try our best to keep all information forthcoming.

All communication for try-outs will be released on the Website and on our Social Media. <u>We will not be individually calling or emailing</u>, so please check in regularly on the website and social media sites for all updates.

To ensure the process runs as smoothly as possible, the following procedures MUST be adhered to:

Any inquiries during and after the tryouts; must be addressed to Valley Wild Hockey Operations or the Valley Wild Chair. No phone calls or emails will be accepted until after 24 hours have passed from the time of the placement posting. Should you call or email regarding placement of your child within the 24-hour period, your inquiry will not be heard.

Understand that the Roster Placement Process is subjective. Each evaluator values hockey attributes differently. Those involved in the placement process must make difficult decisions at times.

Volunteers have dedicated many hours to enable a fair process to place players on the Valley Wild teams. Please respect their time and feel free to thank them for providing the opportunity to ice competitive teams and develop young athletes.



#### **Overview**

The on-ice evaluation process will be coordinated by the Valley Wild Development Coordinators and any other help as deemed necessary. Non-biased evaluators will be on site to score all athletes. Scores will be tabulated for each player to provide an overall score. This score will be used in part to create teams at each level.

During tryouts; parents, siblings, guardians, friends, or other interested parties are not permitted without special permission:

- near the player benches,
- near evaluators wherever they are located during a session

Failure to adhere to these rules will result in disciplinary action determined by the Executive Committee.

Players will be given numbered and colored pennies for the evaluations. Players should wear **Non-Identifying** jerseys throughout the process.

#### Note for all Players

Players will be required to declare a position after the second ice time. Valley Wild Executive reserves the right to meet with players and their families regarding a change in position, i.e. evaluation staff feel that a player may be better as a defensement than a forward or vice versa, thus having the best players play at the highest level based on skill.

#### **Tryout Sessions**

#### Session 1 (Skills and Practice)

The first session is not evaluated for U11 and U13 only. This session will serve as a warm-up / practice session prior to remaining sessions. For the U15/U18 groups, all players will participate in a skills and battle evaluation session. Players will be scored on all drills completed in the session. There will be skating, puck handling, 1 on 1 and 2 on 2 small space battle drills. Players will be scored in compete level, decision-making, second efforts and creativity displayed for all drills.

#### Session 2 (Skills and Battle session)

All players will participate in a skills and battle evaluation session. Players will be scored on all drills completed in the session. There will be skating, puck handling, 1 on 1 and 2 on 2 small space battle drills. Players will be scored in compete level, decision-making, second efforts and creativity displayed for all drills.

#### Session 3 (Skills and Battle session)

All players will participate in a skills and battle evaluation session. Players will be scored on all drills completed in the session. There will be skating, puck handling, 1 on 1 and 2 on 2 small space battle drills. Players will be scored in compete level, decision-making, second efforts and creativity displayed for all drills.

Evaluator's scores will be averaged and recorded. If one session in an age group only completes four of the five drills, all session's scores, of the same age group, revert to the same four drills to ensure all players are scored on the same criteria.

#### Session 4 (Inter-squad or Exhibition Game 1)

Teams will be assigned for session 4 where we will have an inter-squad game. The evaluators will be looking for a player's decision making, second efforts and creativity as well as individual skating and puck skills.

#### Session 5 (Inter-squad or Exhibition Game 2) – U13, U15, U18 only

Teams will be assigned for session 5 where we will have an inter-squad game. The evaluators will be looking for a player's decision making, second efforts and creativity as well as individual skating and puck skills

#### **Injured Players**

Inevitably and unfortunately some players become injured during the process and/or sometimes before tryouts begin. This can result in a very difficult situation for everyone involved (injured players, parents, players this player is competing with, evaluators and Zone Executive). When this happens, we attempt to place the player at the appropriate level base on several qualitative factors:

Where did the player play last season?

How did he/she develop during that year?

How was the injured player's performance at the end of the previous season relative to the other players on his/her team?

The player may be pegged to another undisclosed, like skilled player so that a score can be given and used in tabulating a final score.

Discussion with prior coaches for other qualitative factors.

In all, a complete effort for fairness of all involved is the goal.

Because this is a competitive process, this often leads to disappointment on the part of the injured player if they thought their development was greater; or disappointment on the part of another player who gets displaced for the injured player. It's very difficult to promote an injured player to a higher level when they are unable to display the skills against other players at that level.

Injured players must be able to return to play by Dec. 1st to be placed on a competitive team. This means a player with an injury will have to submit a doctor's note. The doctor's note must include the expected return to play date.

#### **Medical Absence**

Players who are unable to tryout because of health or medical reasons must notify the Tryout Coordinator via email at least 24 hours before tryouts begin. If a player is unable to finish tryouts, she must contact the Tryout Coordinator immediately. The Executive may request additional documentation or proof at their sole discretion. The process for placing those medically excused will be the same as for an injured player.

#### **Tryout Absenteeism**

A U11 player must attend at least three of four sessions, and U13-U18 must attend four of five. Should a player become sick or injured, or for compassionate reasons, and are unable to attend any session(s), the player shall be scored for the session(s) in which they participated, the player shall be ranked for the sessions in which they participated, and their score shall be pro-rated for the session they were unable to attend.

If a player is going to miss a session it is the players (parents) responsibility to have that session approved and validated by the Valley Wild Executive. If there is not an approved absence that player will receive a 0 for the session.

