



## **2018-19 Blackfoot Evaluation Information Summary & Guide**

# 2018-19 Blackfoot Evaluation Information Summary & Guide

## Table of Contents

Introduction.....	3
Blackfoot Hockey Association Evaluation Goals .....	3
Purpose Statement.....	3
New Players .....	3
Timbits Age Group.....	4
House League .....	4
Novice, Atom, Peewee, Bantam and Midget Age Groups Initial Player Placement .....	4
Condition Skate .....	4
Skills Session.....	5
Players Not Able to Attend the Skills Sessions.....	6
Evaluator Roles and Responsibilities .....	7
Player Evaluation System.....	8
Blackfoot Hockey Evaluator Training Sessions .....	8
Evaluation Metrics and Reporting .....	9
Movement Game Structures.....	10
Movement Games Outline.....	11
Junior C Evaluations .....	13
Players Not Attending Evaluation Movement Games .....	14
Bantam and Midget Body Checking & Non Body Checking Evaluations .....	14
Player Identification .....	15
Final Team Selection and Placement.....	15
Coach Selection .....	15
Players Returning from Quadrant Hockey Evaluations .....	16
Grievance Process .....	17
Frequently Asked Questions.....	18
Hockey Development .....	20
Abuse or Harassment .....	20

## Introduction

Blackfoot Hockey Association (BHA) incorporates an annual evaluation process each hockey season developed in partnership with the Hockey Development Committee, and based on Hockey Canada guidelines. This process facilitates the placement of players within their appropriate teams based on the combined evaluation of hockey skills and knowledge of the game through age appropriate skills sessions and games. The evaluation process is subject to review and may change from year to year.

Evaluations are an Association process that affects all players and members, and as such, relies heavily on Association volunteer commitment positions. The success of the process is integral to the success of the Association and ultimately its players. It is expected that the more members who contribute, the more successful the outcome for everyone. Through increased member participation each member will also gain a greater understanding and appreciation of the process.

## Blackfoot Hockey Association Evaluation Goals

To provide a fair assessment of a hockey player's ability and understanding of the game during both the skill and/or game sessions.

To ensure that all players have a reasonable opportunity of being assigned to a team appropriate to their skill level as determined during the on-ice evaluations of the current year.

To provide a consistent process from year to year as players grow into age groups and develop into different skill levels within the Association.

To form teams that maintain balanced and competitive play where the player can develop and participate equitably, while having fun playing hockey throughout the season

## Purpose Statement

The intent of this document is to provide players and parents with an understanding of the overall purpose of evaluations along with an outline of the evaluation process. Each player shall have the opportunity to earn a spot on the appropriate team level based on their own individual efforts. Every effort will be made by the Association to provide a safe structured environment to allow players demonstrate their skills and abilities.

## New Players

For the first evaluation, players new to the Blackfoot Hockey Association will be placed in the appropriate ice grouping based on the Hockey Calgary division they played in the prior season. Players new to Hockey Calgary will be placed in an appropriate age group at the discretion of the Evaluation Committee.

## Timbits Age Group

During the initial 2 ice times players will be split into Jr. and Sr. Timbits (generally 5 and 6 year olds). These ice times will be used as conditioning skates and any initial player movement if needed. Movement will be determined by the Timbits Hockey Development Representative. For the third ice time the Timbits Hockey Development Representative with the assistance of potential Timbits coaches will run the same drills for each group. In each ice time players will be ranked as top third, middle third or bottom third. These rankings will be used to determine the Timbits teams. The goal is to create teams that are all Jr. Timbits teams of equal strength and Sr. Timbits teams of equal strength. Depending on the number of registrations it is possible that Jr. and Sr. mixed teams may exist.

## House League

Blackfoot Hockey will offer a House League option for our Novice, and Atom Age Groups participating in the Hockey Calgary South House League. Our House League teams are not evaluated, and each house league team will take part in one balancing skate where we ensure that we have parity among our House League teams. The House League players are not evaluated and or ranked during this ice session. We look at the overall skill level of the teams, not the overall skill level of each player.

## Novice, Atom, Peewee, Bantam and Midget Age Groups Initial Player Placement

Players need to be arranged in groups in order to start the evaluation process. The initial player placement has no barring or consequence. It is only a starting point. Once each player completes the skills sessions they will be placed in groups based on their individual results. The skills sessions will start the evaluation process and player movements will be made from there on. The Initial Player Placement groupings are only the starting point for the evaluation process and may change by age group should it deemed necessary.

**Note – These group sizes, # of groups and placement are subject to change based on registration #'s which may cause players from the previous year's team to be in different groupings for initial placement. This is not based on any pre-determined rankings from the previous season.**

## Condition Skate

In addition to the pre-season conditioning camp provided by Blackfoot all players will be provided with one conditioning skate prior to beginning the evaluations process. The conditioning skate will include age group appropriate drills and will be run by Blackfoot Hockey Development. The groups based on final registration #'s) for the conditioning skate will be set with the recommended initial placement (as outlined above) with no pre-determined rankings from the previous year.

On-ice volunteers may be required to assist with the conditioning skates.

## Skills Session

After the conditioning skate all players will participate in one skills session. The groups for the skills session will be set with the recommended initial placement (as outlined above) with no pre-determined rankings from the previous year. All skills sessions will be run by a third party supplier, Fuel Performance Testing. All skill drills will be measured by an electronic timing system using timing gates and all results will be recorded and reported electronically. **The final rankings will be based on the average rank of all drills.** In the highly unlikely event of a tie between two or more players total skills will be used to determine final rankings.

The skills timed during these sessions will include age category appropriate drills for forward, backward, agility and transition skating. Each player will be given two opportunities to complete each drill with their best time for each drill being recorded. At Blackfoot Hockey Development's discretion and within reason extra opportunities may be provided for a player to complete the drill should the player not complete the drill or drills properly. The results from the skills testing (for all players) will be used to place the players in the appropriate initial group level to begin the game portion of the evaluation process. No scoring from the skills sessions will carry over to the evaluations process.

The results from the skills portion of evaluations will be posted on the Blackfoot Hockey Association website. To respect privacy and confidentiality player results will be listed by confidential randomly assigned number provided to all players prior to Skills Session.

## Players Not Able to Attend the Skills Sessions

If a player is unable to make or attend the skills session for an Excused Absence and is a returning player to Blackfoot, the player will be placed by Blackfoot Hockey Development. Blackfoot Hockey Development will confer with the player's previous season coach and place the player in the appropriate group based on comparisons with the player's peers from that previous year's team (positional peers for Peewee and above). The player will have 4 evaluation movement games to change their final roster placement. **This placement for the initial game will be final.** For all unexcused absences and for players who were not with Blackfoot the previous year, Blackfoot Hockey Development will place them in the lowest group and assess their skill level within that peer group (i.e. if the age group has groups A, B, C and D the player will be placed in D). If movement is required the player will be moved accordingly and given the opportunity for movement within the evaluation movement games.

**Excused Absences** can include but are not limited to; injury (doctors note may be required), sickness (doctors note may be required), school event (within reason), family emergency. **It is the parent's responsibility to communicate to your Blackfoot Age Group Coordinator, Assistant Coordinator or Age Group Vice President prior to any ice time that will be missed. Absences without communication from parents prior to will be treated as unexcused absences.**

**Unexcused Absences** can include but are not limited to; participation in other sport activities, any absence not communicated to your Blackfoot Age Group Coordinator, Assistant Coordinator or Age Group Vice President.

## Evaluator Roles and Responsibilities

All Lead Evaluators and Age Group Evaluators will be provided by Fuel Performance Testing. The main goal behind hiring external evaluators is to provide a completely fair and unbiased evaluation process. All evaluators will have played hockey at a high level, including Junior, University, and Pro, are educated, over the age of 25 and have experience evaluating hockey players at various levels.

### Lead Evaluator (LE)

- Is present for all ice times in their division
- Evaluates and offers guidance to the team of evaluators to ensure process consistency and accuracy
- Ranks players in each session according to BHA criteria
- Assists the Blackfoot Board of Directors and Team Selection Group in player movement

### Age Group Evaluators

- Minimum 4 at each game.
- Sub groups will be split down the middle. (Ex A1,A2,A3,A4)
- 2 evaluators per subgroup
- Ranks players in each session according to BHA criteria
- Attend BHA provided training of the specific evaluation criteria and use of evaluation forms
- Are assigned to one division
- Must be able to account for their opinions and sign the following declaration on each score sheet:

***I conducted this evaluation fairly, impartially and to the best of my ability. I believe the relative rankings I have submitted appropriately reflect the overall hockey skills and understanding of the game as demonstrated during the ice time. I agree to keep all scores confidential.***

**Signed: X** \_\_\_\_\_

**\* Under no circumstances is anyone to approach any Lead Evaluator and/or Age Group Evaluator during the Evaluation Season or approach the roped off Evaluators Area in all rinks used by the Blackfoot Hockey Association.\***

### Blackfoot Age Group Coordinator and Assistant Coordinators

- Responsible for ensuring the evaluation process runs smoothly
- Is present for all ice times in their division
- First contact for parent communication
- Communicates to members important information pertaining to the evaluation process
- Ensures all volunteers have a good understanding of their responsibilities
- Ensures all players have their assigned ID numbers

### Blackfoot Bench Management Volunteers

- Manage fluid circulation between all players.
- Vary line combinations
- Ensure all shifts (Peewee, Bantam and Midget) are kept to appropriate game scenario length of 0:30-1:00
- Provide warnings to Blackfoot Players not abiding by the appropriate shift length and provide the players identification # to the Blackfoot Age Group Coordinator or Assistant Coordinator.

## Player Evaluation System

All players are evaluated and ranked according to their demonstrated ability within their age group in each of the following facets of the game of hockey. External Age Group Evaluators as outlined above will come to an overall ranking.

### Player Skills

- a. Skating
- b. Puck Handling
- c. Shooting
- d. Passing / Pass reception
- e. Angling/Gap Control/ Body Contact/Checking – in eligible divisions

### Hockey Sense/Decision Making/Spatial Awareness

- a. Plays on both sides of the puck
- b. Able to find open areas of the ice
- c. Understands hockey systems
- d. Makes good decisions

### Timing/Reaction Time

- a. Plays within the flow/tempo of the game
- b. Makes plays on time
- c. Skate into open ice on time
- d. Makes passes on time
- e. Passes and shoots through open windows

### Compete/Intangibles

- a. Competes / Battles
- b. Works Hard
- c. Passion / Grit
- d. Positive Attitude
- e. Attendance

## Blackfoot Hockey Evaluator Training Sessions

Prior to the commencement of the 2018-19 Blackfoot Hockey Player Evaluations meetings will be held with all Lead Evaluators (mandatory attendance), Age Group Evaluators and Blackfoot Age Group Coordinators and Assistant Coordinator to provide pre-evaluations training, definition of a Blackfoot Hockey Player and further outline of expectations and requirements during the evaluations. These meetings will be managed and organized by the Blackfoot President, Age-Group Vice Presidents, Board Secretary, Manager, Hockey Development, and members of the Hockey Development Committee.

## Evaluation Metrics and Reporting

During the evaluation movement games evaluators will focus on the player's age appropriate personal skill set, Hockey Sense, Timing/Reaction Time and Intangibles as outlined under the Player Evaluation System section of this document. The intent is to evaluate a player within their peer sub-group.

Players will be evaluated in game scenarios as outlined in the Movement Game Structure section of this document to determine their final rankings. **Evaluations are subjective and based on opinion on the areas outlined in our Player Evaluation System section of this document. Our External Evaluators have been brought in for their expertise to evaluate all Blackfoot Hockey Association Players.**

Evaluators may have discussions during the game and/or after the game if needed to finalize the rankings of each player. Player Evaluation Scoring from each Movement Game will be collected, after the final rankings have been determined, by the Lead Evaluator for the specific Age Group and provided to the Blackfoot Hockey Manager Hockey Development, Board Secretary, Age-Group Vice-Presidents and President who will then submit to the Blackfoot office for official record keeping. The final rankings will be entered into the Evaluations System by the Board Secretary and/or Manager, Hockey Development and approved by the Age-Group Vice-Presidents and President.

After Movement Games are completed (ex. All Movement Games #1 must be completed within a specific age group if they are being held on different days due to ice scheduling) and final rankings are determined results by specific age groups will be posted to the Blackfoot Hockey website ( [www.blackfoothockey.com](http://www.blackfoothockey.com)) informing Blackfoot players and families of their next scheduled ice time.

Please remember player movement is possible game by game so please continue to review the Evaluation Section of the Blackfoot Hockey website after each ice time to ensure you are aware of your players next ice time. Player results will be posted by the player's identification number.

## Movement Game Structures

### **Novice Minor and Major Age Group Cross Ice 3 on 3 Games**

Games for this age group will be run time with 60 second intervals. The games will be cross-ice between the end boards and blue line with nets on both sides. The games will be two 20 minute periods. Players will be given a 5 minute warm up with a 1 minute intermission between periods. There will be no mid-game movement of players.

### **Novice Major (Movement Game #4) and Atom Age Group Full Ice 5 on 5 Games**

Games for this age group will be run time with 75 second intervals. Players will be given a 5 minute warm up and 1 minute intermission between periods. Each interval will start with a face off at center ice. If a goal is scored players on the scoring team are to return to the red line and set up for the other teams break-out. Players on the team who were scored on will retrieve the puck from their goal and initiate their break-out. When pucks are saved by a goalie, opposing players are to return to the offensive blue line and defending players are to retrieve the puck from their goalie and initiate a break-out.

By having each interval start with a face off it will allow players to demonstrate their abilities in more of a game setting and provide evaluators with a broader view of the players skill sets and abilities.

For the Atom age category and Novice 5 on 5 game all players will rotate through each position (i.e. forward and defense) allowing the evaluators to view them in different game situations.

### **Peewee, Bantam and Midget Age Group Full Ice 5 on 5 Games**

Games for this age group will be run time with full stoppage on goals, off-sides, goalie puck stoppage. Players will be given a 5 minute warm up and 1 minute intermission between periods. Forwards will play wing as well as center and defensemen will play both right and left. There will be no designated center or right/left wing for positional play. This format of play will allow evaluators to see how players play in different settings similar to sessional game play. Players will play against all lines on the opposing side as line changes will be made at separate times throughout the game.

Referees will officiate all games and Hockey Calgary Rules will apply. High hits, hits from behind and major stick infractions will be dealt with as in a typical game. If a player is given an infraction like this, it will result in a game ejection and affect the players' to be evaluated properly. Penalties will be called and assessed with the player who was offended given a shot-out with the penalized player chasing. Players are to use contact when appropriately in the context of the game. Players are not to use contact to make a big hit or make an impact that does not benefit play. Unnecessary contact and/or checking will negatively impact the player's evaluation rankings.

**Shift lengths are to be kept to normal hockey shifts ie. 30 seconds – 1 minute. Players exceeding this length will be warned, and if long shifts are re-occurring, will be sat. Bench management will be managed by a volunteer coach who will monitor player shift times.**

**Players will be required to mix lines, as to give evaluators a perspective on how each individual plays with their peer group.**

**Players should be reminded that hockey is a team sport, so use your teammates on the ice. Individual play will possibly hurt you.**

## Movement Games Outline

After the skills session all players will be placed into groupings based on final registration #'s. Initial placement in these groupings will be based on results from the skills session.

The movement games for each age category will be:

Novice Minor – Four 3 on 3 Cross Ice Sessions (no mid-game movement)

Novice Major – Three 3 on 3 Cross Ice Sessions (no mid-game movement) followed by One 5 on 5 Full Ice Session

Atom – Four 5 on 5 Full Ice Games

Peewee – Four 5 on 5 Full Ice Games

Bantam – Four 5 on 5 Full Ice Games

Midget – Four 5 on 5 Full Ice Games

NOTE: Additional games will be added if deemed necessary.

**All individuals that have applied to be head coach or assistant coach for the 2018-19 season MUST volunteer a minimum of 5 evaluations hours as bench managers to assist with the evaluation process. Bench Managers will not be allowed to be on their own son or daughters bench during the evaluation process. Our Evaluations are only as strong as our volunteers and we require your assistance to make the evaluations FAIR for all players. Individuals who do not follow the evaluations rules as laid out will be asked to leave the bench immediately and their coaching application for the 2018-19 season may be affected.**

In an effort to ensure proper movement, players may be moved upward and downward from a group at any time during the evaluation process. Evaluators will be encouraged to identify stronger players in a group that should be moved up and weaker players in a group that should be moved down a group. At all of the first movement games for each ice group, Blackfoot Hockey Development will watch for discrepancies that have occurred as a result of the Skills Session and, at its discretion, will move a player up or down to a group more suited to their individual game play.

For evaluation purposes and to allow for more game by game movement players will be split into smaller sub-groups:

Novice will be evaluated in groups of 6 for 3 vs 3 games and will be evaluated in groups of 5 for 5 vs 5 game

Atom will be evaluated in groups of 5

Peewee, Bantam & Midget Forwards will be evaluated in groups of 6 and Defense will be evaluated in groups of 4

**\*Subject to change based on final registration numbers. Player movement up and down will remain the same.**

The initial groups will be based on their rankings from the Skills Session. For all future movement games, player's placements will be based on their previous movement game, up or down movement, with no carry over ranking. After each movement game the top skaters (2 players in Novice and Atom, 2 forwards and 1 defenseman for Peewee, Bantam, Midget) from each sub-group will move up to the next sub-group. The bottom skaters (2 players in Novice and Atom, 2 forwards and 1 defenseman in Peewee, Bantam, Midget) will move down to the next sub-group. All other players (ranked in the middle) will remain in the same sub-group.

**Note: There are multiple sub-groups within each movement game. Sub-group sizes are subject to change based on final registration numbers and Hockey Calgary +/- roster guidelines.**

## Movement Games Outline Cont'd

### Peewee, Bantam, Midget Forward Sub-Group Movement Game 1, 2 and 3 Example

Player Rankings within sub-group after Movement Game 1

Rank #1 – This player will move up a Sub-Group for Movement Game 2

Rank #2 – This player will move up a Sub-Group for Movement Game 2

Rank #3 – This player will stay within Sub-Group for Movement Game 2

Rank #4 – This player will stay within Sub-Group for Movement Game 2

Rank #5 – This player will move down a Sub-Group Movement Game 2

Rank #6 – This player will move down a Sub Group for Movement Game 2

Similar movement will take place for all Novice and Atom Movement Games 1, 2 and 3 always with 2 players moving up to the next sub-grouping and 2 players moving down to the next sub-grouping.

**Movement Examples (colour coding reflects players moving up or down in sub groupings). This movement example is for sub-groupings of six players. Other sub-group sizes would have different scenarios.**

**Follow Player 1 to see movement example of a player moving up and down through the process**

**Follow Player 9 to see movement example of a player moving down through the process**

**Follow Player 17 to see movement example of a player moving up through the process**

Skills ranking	Game 1 after movement				Game 2 after movement				Game 3 after movement			
	First Name	Last Name	Evaluator rank	Rank after Game 1 movement	First Name	Last Name	Evaluator rank	Rank after Game 2 movement	First Name	Last Name	Evaluator rank	Rank after Game 3 movement
Player 1	Player	2	1	1	Player	2	1	1	Player	2	1	1
Player 2	Player	1	2	2	Player	5	2	2	Player	7	2	2
Player 3	Player	5	3	3	Player	7	3	3	Player	5	3	3
Player 4	Player	7	4	4	Player	10	4	4	Player	8	4	4
Player 5	Player	4	1	5	Player	3	1	5	Player	1	1	5
Player 6	Player	10	2	6	Player	8	2	6	Player	17	2	6
Player 7	Player	8	5	7	Player	1	5	7	Player	10	5	7
Player 8	Player	3	6	8	Player	4	6	8	Player	3	6	8
Player 9	Player	6	3	9	Player	6	3	9	Player	6	3	9
Player 10	Player	9	4	10	Player	11	4	10	Player	14	4	10
Player 11	Player	11	1	11	Player	17	1	11	Player	13	1	11
Player 12	Player	13	2	12	Player	14	2	12	Player	22	2	12
Player 13	Player	15	5	13	Player	9	5	13	Player	4	5	13
Player 14	Player	17	6	14	Player	13	6	14	Player	11	6	14
Player 15	Player	14	3	15	Player	22	3	15	Player	18	3	15
Player 16	Player	12	4	16	Player	18	4	16	Player	21	4	16
Player 17	Player	22	1	17	Player	19	1	17	Player	15	1	17
Player 18	Player	18	2	18	Player	21	2	18	Player	12	2	18
Player 19	Player	19	5	19	Player	12	5	19	Player	9	5	19
Player 20	Player	21	6	20	Player	15	6	20	Player	19	6	20

**A players next ice time will reflect any movement needed. This movement takes place within all sub-groups for all groupings after Movement Games 1, 2 and 3. NOTE: Additional movement games may be added following this format if deemed necessary.**

Each ice group will make up more than one team, a player may move within sub-groups and teams while staying in the same ice group. This movement up or down within sub-groups will result in changes to final team placement once final team roster sizes have been decided based on final registration #'s and Hockey Calgary +/- Roster Guidelines. Player movement may also result in players being moved from one ice grouping to another (i.e #1 and 2 ranked players in Novice, Atom, Peewee, Bantam, Midget Sub-Group B1 will move up to Ice Grouping A for their next movement game)

#### **Movement Game 4**

For the last movement game, players may move up or down within their sub-group set after Movement Game 3 but players **will not** move up or down to next sub-group as in the previous movement games.

I.E a player could be ranked #3 within sub-group Peewee Forward Group B2 after the completion of Movement Game 3 to start Movement Game 4. At the end of Movement Game 4 the player can be ranked #1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 within sub-group Peewee Forward Group B2.

No players will be moved to another sub-group after the final movement game. Players will be ranked within the final sub-group only. Final Sub-Group rankings may include more than one team depending on final roster sizes so it is important for all players to attend this final game.

**NOTE: If additional Movement Games are deemed necessary, the above Movement Game 4 structures applies to the last movement game.**

## Junior C Evaluations

Blackfoot Hockey Association has one Junior C team for play within Hockey Calgary. In the event that more players register for Junior C that allowed on the final team roster BHA will hold Junior C Evaluations to set the final team roster. The Junior C Evaluations will consist of two 5 on 5 games to evaluate the players ability to play at the Junior C level. The Junior C Evaluations will be conducted by the Junior C Evaluations Committee which will consist of the Age Group Vice-President, Junior Age Group Coordinator, Blackfoot Hockey Development Representative, Junior C Head Coach and Assistant Coach. BHA reserves the right to add, change or delete members from the Junior C Evaluations Committee.

As Hockey Calgary rules allow for players at the Junior C level to play outside of their community association boundaries the following criteria may also be used as part of the Junior C Evaluations Process,

- Over age player allowance. Hockey Calgary allows for a maximum of four (4) over age players to be on a final Junior C team roster. If more than four (4) over age players register BHA will need to cut these players down to maximum of four (4) players regardless of the final number of players registered.
- Existing Blackfoot Hockey Association players, i.e. individuals who have played the majority of their minor hockey within the Blackfoot Hockey Association.
- Previous level of play ex. Midget Division 1, Midget Division 2, Midget Division 3, Midget Division 4, Midget Division 5.
- Returning players to the BHA Junior C Team
- New players to the BHA Junior C Team who have not played within the Blackfoot Hockey Association previously.

**These Junior C Evaluations will only be conducted if deemed necessary by BHA Hockey Development based on the final registration #'s.**

## Players Not Attending Evaluation Movement Games

If a player is unable to attend an evaluation movement game due to an excused absence they will remain in the sub-group determined by their evaluations. Through their previous play or skills session and will be given an opportunity to skate at their next ice time within that sub-grouping. This will not affect any other players' movement up or down as all players will be given the opportunity to skate in the sub-group determined by their evaluations. For sickness or injury a **Doctor's note may be required**.

If a player does not attend an evaluation movement game due to an unexcused absence they will be ranked at the bottom of their current sub-grouping and dropped down to the next-sub grouping as per our evaluation guidelines. This will continue for all unexcused absences.

**Excused Absences** can include but are not limited to; injury (doctors note may be required), sickness (doctors note may be required), school event (within reason), family emergency. **It is the parent's responsibility to communicate to your Blackfoot Age Group Coordinator, Assistant Coordinator or Age Group Vice President prior to any ice time that will be missed. Absences without communication from parents prior to will be treated as unexcused absences.**

**Unexcused Absences** can include but are not limited to; participation in other sport activities, any absence not communicated to your Blackfoot Age Group Coordinator, Assistant Coordinator or Age Group Vice President.

For players who were not with Blackfoot the previous year, Blackfoot Hockey Development will place them on the lowest team and assess their skill level within that peer group (ie. If the age group has teams 1 through 6, the player will be placed on 6). If movement is required the player will be moved accordingly by Blackfoot Hockey Development. **Doctor's note will be required.**

## Bantam and Midget Body Checking & Non Body Checking Evaluations

Based on Hockey Calgary seeding for the 2018-19 season Blackfoot Hockey Association will have 2 to 3 Bantam teams (based on final registration #'s) and 3 Midget teams playing within Hockey Calgary body checking divisions. The remaining teams will be in divisions with non-body checking. To facilitate this evaluation groups for Bantam and Midget will be as follows.

**Bantam** - Group A and Group B will have body checking in the evaluation games. Groups C will have non-body checking in the evaluation games. If more than 3 groups are needed for the evaluation movement games based on final registration #'s than that group will also have non body checking evaluation games the same as Group C.

**Midget** – As BHA will only have one non body checking team playing within Hockey Calgary based on the current Hockey Calgary seeding grid all Midget Evaluation Games will be body checking. Midget players requesting non-contact will automatically be placed on BHA's non body checking Midget team without attending the evaluation movement games.

Prior to the evaluation games players will be asked if they want to play on a body checking or non-body checking team. Players who qualify for Group A from the skills portion that indicated they wanted to play on a non-body checking team will be moved to a non-body checking grouping. Your evaluation ranking will determine your group placement **NOT** whether or not you requested to be in body checking, i.e. if a players evaluation ranking determines that they should be in Group B they will not be placed in Group A just because they have requested to play with body checking.

**NOTE: The above is subject to change based on final registration #'s and changes to Hockey Calgary Final Seeding Grid. All changes will be communicated to BHA Bantam and Midget players and families.**

## Player Identification

Players will be assigned pinnies for each evaluation movement game. It is very important that all players wear the pinnie given to them at check in for the appropriate session and return them to the player check in area after each session.

**Players are not to wear red or yellow jerseys during evaluations as the pinnies used are red and yellow.**

**NOTE: The pinnie #'s do not reflect any player ranking at any time and are assigned randomly.**

At the Conditioning Skate all players will be given a package that includes a randomly assigned identification #. Evaluation Results will be posted on the Blackfoot Hockey website using the participants' identification #

## Final Team Selection and Placement

After each age group has completed the entire evaluation process, the Age Group Coordinator, Assistant Coordinator, Director of Coordinators, Manager, Hockey Development, both Vice Presidents and the President meet to place the players on teams based on their evaluation results. **At this point in the process sick, injured or returning Quadrant Hockey players will be placed in to the appropriate evaluation ranking and special requests are approved. This may cause player movement and could change your assumption of your players' final roster placement. Due to family and player confidentiality we are unable to release any details on these placements or requests.** Final roster sizes are determined based on final registration #'s and Hockey Calgary roster guidelines and +/- roster requirements and careful consideration of what is best for the Blackfoot Hockey Association.

This process may take 48 to 72 hours to complete after the final evaluation movement games are completed for each age group.

Evaluation 4 results will not be posted once complete you will be notified by your upcoming season's coach on team placement once chosen and returning quadrant/sick/injured players placed.

## Coach Selection

All coaches should ensure they have filled out the online coach application in the registration package on the Blackfoot Hockey website, [www.blackfoothockey.com](http://www.blackfoothockey.com), to be included in the coach selection process.

During the Team Selection meetings Head Coaches are finalized. Head Coaches are selected using several different criteria including; coaching philosophy, coach survey feedback, coaching training/certification, previous coaching experience within the Blackfoot Hockey Association, have they met the Evaluation Volunteer Requirements, previous coaching experience in other sports, etc. The Age Group Coordinators, Assistant Coordinators, Director of Coordinators, Manager-Hockey Development both Vice Presidents and the President will participate in the Head Coach Selection. Assistant Coaches are selected by the Head Coach with the approval of the appropriate age group Vice President.

Age Group Coordinators will contact the Head Coaches to advise them of their final team roster. All potential coaches should ensure the Age Group Coordinators for the Age Group they would like to have their cell phone # to be contacted should any questions, etc arise during the coach selection process.

## Players Returning from Quadrant Hockey Evaluations

The Blackfoot Hockey Association acknowledges in the Bantam and Midget age groups some players may still be participating in Quadrant evaluations during the Blackfoot Hockey Evaluations Process. Blackfoot Hockey will begin Bantam and Midget evaluations as close to the end of Quadrant Hockey Evaluations as possible to allow for those players who may return to Blackfoot Hockey.

Players that return from Quadrant evaluations after the Skills Timing Sessions have been completed and prior to the end of the Evaluations Process will be dealt with individually by Blackfoot Hockey Development and will be placed within the Blackfoot Hockey Association at a level that is consistent with their ability. Having said this, all returning players will still have to compete for a spot within the Blackfoot Hockey Association (time permitting) as there are no guaranteed placements for any players within the Blackfoot Hockey Association.

If a player returns from Quadrant hockey after the completion of the Blackfoot Hockey Evaluations Process they will be evaluated by Blackfoot Hockey Development – the players' first evaluation skate will be at a Blackfoot Team 2 ice time followed, if determined necessary by Blackfoot Hockey Development, by a skate at Blackfoot Team 1 ice time to determine final team placement.

**Note: Players returning from Quadrant Hockey Evaluations during or after the Blackfoot Hockey Evaluations Process can affect your players' final placement. Please review the Final Team Placement and Selection section of this document for further details.**

## Grievance Process

After the results are posted following Movement Game 3 if a player does not agree with their current placement a grievance may be filed.

To file a grievance a player must;

- File a written grievance within 24 hours of the posted results from Movement Game 3 to the appropriate age-group Vice President. If there is less than 24 hours from the results being posted from Movement Games 3 and Movement Game 4 then the written grievance must be received 6 hours prior to Movement Game 4.
- Email will suffice as a written grievance. For the age groups Atom and below please email to [secondvp@blackfoothockey.com](mailto:secondvp@blackfoothockey.com). For the age groups Peewee and above please email to [firstvp@blackfoothockey.com](mailto:firstvp@blackfoothockey.com)
- A grievance cannot be filed prior to the posted results from Movement Game 3.
- The written grievance must state the age category, player's name and Player ID# and any additional comments the parent may wish to make as to why they are filing a grievance.
- A cheque in the amount of \$200.00 must be delivered to the Blackfoot Hockey Association office prior to the start of the formal grievance process.
- The Specific Age-Group Vice President will investigate the Evaluation Rankings in co-operation with the Director of Coordinators, Manager-Hockey Development and Lead Evaluators.
- The investigation will review the Evaluator Rankings, check for anomalies in the rankings and/or physical errors within the data entry, etc.
- Once the investigation is complete the Specific Age-Group Vice-President will provide feedback to the parents based on findings from the investigation and the evaluation rankings.
- If the investigation determines that no errors or anomalies were made in the rankings then the Evaluator Rankings will be final and the Grievance Process will be closed.
- If the investigation determines further information is needed the Specific Age-Group Vice President will form a Grievance Committee which will include himself, Manager-Hockey Development, Lead Evaluator and one Game and Conduct Director that will attend Movement Game 4 to evaluate the player that has placed the grievance.
- The Grievance Committee will be provided with the evaluation rankings of the grieving player from Movement Game 1 to 3 and any comments of the evaluators.
- In order to be successful, a grieving player must be determined by the Grievance Committee to be ABOVE the players current peer sub-group. NOT simply at the top of the current sub-group, but must be noticeably ABOVE in all evaluation areas including personal skill set, hockey sense, timing/reaction timing and intangibles.
- The decision of the Grievance Committee will be final and the player will be notified of the result.
- If the grievance is successful, the \$200.00 fee will be returned and the player will be moved accordingly to their new sub-group ranking at the completion of Movement Game 4 and prior to the Final Team Selection Process.
- There will be no Grievance's allowed after the deadlines noted above OR after the completion of Movement Game 4.

**NOTE: For your consideration prior to filing a grievance and paying the \$200.00 fee; The Investigation and/or Grievance Committee will be looking for reasons to identify the player as ABOVE the peer sub-group. There are multiple sub-groupings playing each other on the ice during the evaluation movement games. Out of a large ice grouping the player is only being compared by evaluators to a small sub-group of players. Is the player ABOVE ALL players within the sub-grouping? This will be what the Investigation and/or Grievance Committee will be looking for during Movement Game 4 in order for the grievance to be successful. If successful a player may be moved accordingly to the next sub-group or above which may not always result in a final team placement change depending on final roster sizes and cut lines**

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q. My child is in the wrong group for their Conditioning Skate and Skills Timing?**

- A. Please review the Initial Placement Section of this document. Appropriate group sizing means it is possible that all team members from your team last year might not be in the same group for the Conditioning Skate and Skills Timing. This is not reflective on any pre-determination of your child's skill set or ranking from last season.

**Q. What is an Evaluation Movement Game?**

- A. The evaluation movement games allow Blackfoot Hockey Age Group Evaluators to assess all players to determine what peer group suits their level of skill to setup each Blackfoot Hockey Player for the most success and skill development during the season. There are several sub-groupings within each ice grouping and Movement Game which allows Age-Group Evaluators to evaluate your child within a smaller peer group. Player movement happens after each Movement Game and players may move up or down to the next sub-group or ice grouping or stay in the same sub-group or ice grouping as determined by the Age Group Evaluators to best suit your child's level of play.

**Q. How do I find out my child's next ice time?**

- A. All Evaluation results are posted on the Blackfoot Hockey website, [www.blackfoothockey.com](http://www.blackfoothockey.com), using your child's randomly assigned identification #. It is your responsibility to be aware of your child's next ice time. There will no email coming from Blackfoot Hockey with your child's next ice time.

**Q. How do I find out my child's identification #?**

- A. You will receive your child's identification # when you check in for the Conditioning Skate. If you do not receive or misplace your identification # please contact your Age Group Coordinator.

**Q. I want to coach this season, am I expected to be involved in the Blackfoot Hockey Evaluations Process?**

- A. Yes! The Blackfoot Hockey Association requires all parents who have applied to coach during the 2017-18 season to volunteer a minimum of five (5) hours during the Evaluations Process. Failure to volunteer during our Evaluations Process will have a negative impact on whether or not you are chosen to coach this season.

**Q. I am not a coach but I would like to volunteer. How Can I?**

- A. As a parent there are many other off-ice volunteer roles our Age Group Coordinators are trying to fill. Please visit your age-group evaluation page on the Blackfoot Hockey website for more details.

**Q. The evaluators must have made a mistake in scoring my child, how do I go about getting this error corrected?**

A. Parents are not allowed to speak with any Lead Evaluators and/or Age Group Evaluators. The scores given to each player by the evaluators are not open for discussion or revision. The evaluators are watching and scoring all the players against each other in a fair and consistent manner. The submitted scoring is entered into the Evaluations Database and re-organized for the next Movement Game. If after Movement Game 3 you still feel there is an error please review the Grievance Process in this document.

**Q. Everyone who watched my child play including his last coach thinks that he/she deserves to be placed on a higher team. Will you consider the opinions of others during the review process?**

A. Unfortunately the opinions of past coaches or other parents who witnessed your child play cannot be factored into final team placement. To maintain integrity and fairness to all who have been evaluated the only measurement tool we can use is the scores that have been given by the evaluators.

**Q. Who has access to the Evaluation Scoring and Database?**

A. The only people that have access to the Evaluation Software are the Age Group Evaluators, Lead Evaluator, Manager-Hockey Development, Age-Group Vice Presidents, Board Secretary and President. Other members of the Blackfoot Board of Directors may be given approval, by the Blackfoot Board Executive, for temporary access to assist with the Evaluations.

**Q. What happens once the Evaluation Process is complete?**

A. Once the Evaluation Process is complete the Team Selection and Coach Selection meetings are held. After the rosters have been finalized, posted to the Blackfoot Hockey website and the Head Coaches have been selected you will receive an email from your Head Coach welcoming you to your new team. Practices will generally start within a few days of the rosters being finalized.

## Hockey Development

For the purpose of this document when Blackfoot Hockey Development is mentioned it refers to the Manager, Hockey Development, Director of Coordinators, both Age-Group Vice Presidents and President. Input from the Hockey Development Committee is provided prior to the finalization and approval of the Blackfoot Hockey Evaluations Summary and Guide Document from the Board of Directors.

## Abuse or Harassment

Blackfoot Hockey Association has a zero-tolerance policy for abuse of any kind or format towards volunteers and Board Members. Any individuals not acting in accordance with this policy may have a Game and Conduct investigation or hearing being initiated

