

## Competitive Tryout Process 2025

### Tryout Process

For the competitive tryout process OMHA will use a stage-based model. This will consist of 2 stages and end with team selection.

Stage 1 will be three (3) ice times with either skills, battles or intersquad games.

Stage 2 will be intersquad games and there will be 1 session. Coaches reserve the right to add an additional session at the end of Stage 2 if deemed necessary.

-On ice sessions will be run by one of the head coaches or someone selected by the Technical Director with no affiliation to the players trying out whenever possible.

\*At any point after the second session of Stage 1, coaches can decide to park a player for the remaining sessions.

\*After Stage 1, players will be directed to rec or to continue with competitive tryouts.

All communication regarding player assignments and release from evaluations will come from the Chair's address. Final teams will be released on social media and the OMHA website after email communication has been sent.

### Evaluation Process

Player evaluations will be completed by the selected coaches at each level and evaluators who are not directly involved at the level being evaluated. Evaluation forms will be the method used. Data will be collected, analyzed, and used as a tool by the coaches towards team selection.

### Need to Knows

Players must declare special requests prior to the tryout process. Examples include trying out for AA/A but only interested in playing A. Family members trying out for AA/A but only interested in playing on the same team (this scenario would lead to both players playing at the lower level of the 2 players).

It is of utmost importance that players do not change/trade jerseys during the tryout process. OMHA will score each player on the # they were given at the start of each stage of tryouts. Jerseys will be collected after Stage 1.

## **Absent During Competitive Team Tryouts**

Players interested in participating in competitive hockey are expected to register, pay the required tryout fee and participate in the evaluation process. If a player becomes sick or injured and is unable to attend any of the tryout process whatsoever, a formal request is to be submitted in writing (email) by the parent/guardian identifying why the player cannot participate in the scheduled tryouts. In addition to sickness or injury, the Association recognizes that there are specific activities that are significant to our players in addition to family members that may arise, and which take precedence (including extraordinary situations or circumstances). Entry into this interim process does not exempt players from registration or the respective tryout fee. The formal request will include background information that supports why the player should be considered. This includes but is not limited to hockey experience, past performance with prior teams, coaching reports from those teams and any other pertinent information. Coaching reports may be provided directly to the Tryout Committee. The Tryout Committee may follow up with previous coaches if more information is required.

The requests will be reviewed with the respective competitive team head coach as well as the Tryout Committee. The recommendation from the head coach and Tryout Committee shall be presented to the Executive for final approval. The decision shall be shared with the family/player with supporting rationale. Decisions rendered by the Executive Committee may be subject to the appeal process (Part 2, Section 12.3).

## **Inquires During the Process**

Inquiries during and following the tryouts must be addressed to [omhachair@gmail.com](mailto:omhachair@gmail.com). No other coach/evaluator, assistant or OMHA Board Member will entertain any issues relating to individual players.

No in-person meetings will be held with anyone during the tryout process and any emails will only be accepted after 24 hours have passed from the time a team is posted. We ask that you consider all factors and view your concern from a wide point of view before you decide to send your email.

Harassing or threatening calls/emails will not be tolerated. OMHA goes to great lengths to ensure a fair tryout process, while we understand that not everyone agrees with every decision, OMHA is committed to this process and believes it places athletes in the best position for an enjoyable season.