



How do I know what is being evaluated and the weight of that skill?

At KDMHA, we work hard to ensure a fair and transparent tryout process for all players and families. We understand that tryouts can be a stressful time— not just for the players, but also for families and our Executive team. There's a lot of information to take in, and we know that sometimes families may feel unsure or left with questions. That's why we've created this FAQ— to address common concerns and help everyone better understand how tryouts work. We encourage all families to take a few moments to read through this resource. If you still have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to the appropriate Convenor. We're here to support you every step of the way.

How do I know what is being evaluated and the weight of that skill?

Players are evaluated on skating, puck control, shooting and game situations and understanding. Goalies are evaluated on their ability to stop the puck, their agility and recovery, positional play and following and anticipating the play. The weighting of these criteria depends on the age group, and is based on Hockey Canada's player pathways and set out in Kemptville District Minor Hockey Association (KDMHA)'s Rules and Regulations, Section 4.7 Criteria and Weighting.

Can players receive feedback about their tryout?

Yes, player feedback can be provided upon request a minimum of 24 hours after release by requesting to the Division Convenor. The Division Convenor will provide the player feedback report which provides a visual recap of the scoring criteria as noted above on where the player is to the average of the players moving on. No evaluator scores or comparisons to other players will be provided.

Note: Player evaluations are meant to support player development going into the next level or house sorts. Feedback will not be provided to players who make the competitive team; successful players may speak to their coach to get feedback for the upcoming season. This is laid out in our Rules and Regulations located on our KDMHA website.



Why are the U11 and U9 Competitive Tryouts done in the Fall?

The Kemptville District Minor Hockey Association (KDMHA) follows the Hockey Canada Player Pathways which stipulate no hockey tryouts prior to Labour Day for U9 and U11. To follow this pathway and provide a seasonal break for families and players, KDMHA follows this recommendation.

Why are the U7 and U9 Conditioning Camps done in the fall?

Four camps (or "skill sessions") prior to evaluations are a requirement of the Hockey Canada Player Pathways for these age groups. KDMHA follows these Pathways, which are posted on our website.



How do we know that the team is not already made before tryouts start?

KDMHA is committed to conducting evaluations in a manner that is objective, transparent and fair. We invite all members to review and understand the process for player selection set out in Sections 4 through 6 of KDMHA's Rules and Regulations.

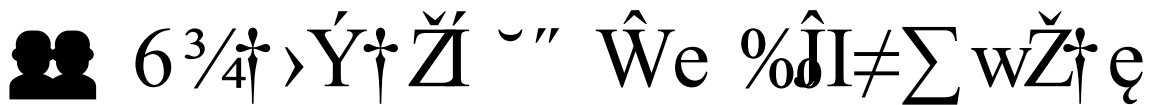
In summary, no team is selected until the final evaluation is completed. Everyone who helps with tryouts are volunteers. Evaluators are individuals who have hockey experience and have no affiliations to the tryout players. On-ice help are not a part of the evaluation process but are there to assist in direction of drills and keep the tryouts moving. The Division Convenor, Vice President and President work diligently to ensure the player selection process follows the established rules and processes, and that the fairness of the player selection process is maintained throughout.

Does the coach have any say in the players they get on the team?

Yes, coaches do have input in the team selection process within the established structured and transparent process. For example, the Division Convenor, Vice President and President welcome feedback from the coach in the selection of independent and knowledgeable evaluators as well as the ideal number of players per position (i.e. goalies, defenders, centres etc.). Once evaluations are complete, coaches provide feedback to the Division Convenor, Vice President and President in final discussions to help form the team.

There are too many players on the ice for my player to be evaluated, can the number of players be reduced per ice time?

KDMHA will limit the number of players allowed to register for tryouts in order to limit the number of players on the ice. Note this may result in an inability to accommodate walk-ins and late tryout registration if the group is already at the maximum number of registrations. As ice is booked for tryouts at a minimum of 6 months in advance, KDMHA is not able to add additional sessions if the tryout registrations exceed what was planned.



What experience do the Evaluators have?

All evaluators are volunteers. KDMHA does our best to ensure that the evaluators have the necessary experience and training to evaluate players effectively, and as set out in Section 5 of KDMHA's Rules and Regulations.

Are the on-ice coaches coaching only some players and not others?

On-ice coaches/help are only there to assist the head coach and are not coaching any of the players. All coaches and on-ice help are volunteers. KDMHA works very hard to get on-ice help that has limited conflict of interest to the players on the ice and are only there to encourage the players throughout and do not form part of the evaluation process.



My child is going to miss one of the tryouts. Do they need to attend all tryouts to be considered for the team?

We understand that conflicts or unexpected circumstances can arise, and missing a tryout does not automatically exclude a player from being considered for a team.

However, attending all tryouts is strongly recommended, as it gives evaluators the best opportunity to fairly and accurately assess each player's skills and development. Missing a session may limit the amount of information evaluators have, which could impact placement— especially in a highly competitive group. If your child must miss a tryout, please notify your convenor as soon as possible.

Communication is key, and we will always do our best to support your child's opportunity to be evaluated fairly.

Storm specific: Due to absence of player borders, Storm could be approached for players released during competitive tryouts to attend a Storm tryout at any time of the tryouts. As our evaluation process does not disadvantage players who miss a tryout this is permitted at the competitive level, but still must meet the import criteria as set out in Rules and Regulations.

My child is injured and cannot participate in Tryouts, will they be placed on the competitive team?

KDMHA will review injury-related situations on a case-by-case basis. Players who sustain a serious injury, including but not limited to broken bones, significant muscular injuries, or injuries requiring surgery, must provide a physician's note outlining the nature of the injury and the estimated return-to-play date for review by the KDMHA Executive. Upon receipt of the required documentation, KDMHA will assess the situation and determine the appropriate next steps, which may include evaluation at a later date. Placement at a previously played level is not guaranteed, nor will players automatically be considered for a specific level based solely on prior participation.

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My child has been released from tryouts and wants to try out for the next level. Are they automatically moved to the next tier?

No, you must register and pay for each tier your child is trying out for. If you need assistance, please reach out to Kathy, the Storm Registrar:

stormregistrar@kemptvillehockey.com

We did not play for Kemptville Storm last season. What is the import policy?

Section 2 of the KDMHA's Rules and Regulations outlines the Storm import rules: In the absence of player boundaries, Kemptville Storm will permit a maximum of 3 import players per team for Tier 1 competitive divisions. In order to be considered at tryouts, import players must place in the top 3 for their position (forward or defense) or be the top goalie. No imports will be permitted for other Tiers of competitive teams or house teams.

An "import" player is defined for Storm as a player who was registered with another association (not with KDMHA) under OWHA or HEO for the previous season.

Released players within OWHA will be considered imports once released from Storm. Exceptions may be made for players that have moved to Kemptville, upon consideration by the VP Storm. The President, VP Storm and Division Convenor may consider exceptions on a case-by-case basis.

Can a Storm Player tryout for another Association?

Section 2 of the KDMHA's Rules and Regulations outlines the Storm import rules: Kemptville Storm will not issue permission to tryout for Storm players that wish to tryout elsewhere at levels that Kemptville intends to offer. Players can instead be released if they wish to go elsewhere. The President, VP Storm and Division Convenor may consider exceptions on a case-by-case basis.

Still have questions? Please reach out to your Division Convenor. We're here to support you every step of the way.