
LMHA realizes that the decision to enter the "A" division hockey program is an important decision and one that should not be taken lightly. The additional commitments of both time and money should be considered before entering tryouts. We encourage your family to consider the following before finalizing your decision:

1. A tremendously high-level of commitment is expected from all "A" division players with respect to attitude, attendance and all other team activities. Players must be ready to commit to this level of involvement.

2. For "A1 and A2" level players, hockey must be your highest priority sport throughout the season. For "A3 and A4" level players, hockey must be at least equal in priority to any other sporting activity throughout the season. Commitment to your team is imperative.

3. It is not sufficient to simply possess the necessary skills and ability required at any particular level. Players are ambassadors for the Community of Langley, and as such are required to observe high-levels of conduct both on and off the ice, at home and away. Players who have the ability, but do not demonstrate acceptable codes of conduct may not be selected, or may be subsequently reassigned to another team. Please remember that you have signed up for a competitive sport and for the opportunity to represent the Community.

4. Travel is likely required, attending one or more out-of-town tournament and possibly the Provincial Championship during the season. It is every team’s goal to attend Provincials should they get the opportunity to represent the association and teams should plan additional funds with this in mind. A team budget discussion will be had once your team is formed and the season is underway.

5. In addition to the commitment of time, "A" division hockey requires sufficient additional costs over "C" division hockey and parents and players should expect additional costs for items such as travel, extra ice, dry land training, apparel, etc. Money is raised either through fundraising activities (encouraged) or direct payment by parents – this is usually decided by the parent group at the start of the season.
6. It is the responsibility of every player trying out for "A" division hockey to ensure that they are in sufficiently good condition prior to the tryouts to perform to their best ability.

**Expectations**

We want to share LMHA’s expectations and guidelines for players and parents throughout the Evaluation process. This is a very emotional time of year in our association and the stress level amongst players, parents, coaches, and executive members can be very high. Our hope is that this advanced warning of expectations and rules during the tryout process will hopefully reduce the potential for conflict and alleviate some stress.

Our expectations are as follows:

**Communication**

1. Communication between parents and coaches or evaluators during the tryout process is **strictly** forbidden. Any suspicion or accusation regarding a parent approaching a coach or evaluator in any manner (face-to-face, electronically, at the rink, outside of the rink or otherwise) until the final rosters are set will be thoroughly investigated. Any communication between a parent and coach or evaluator until the roster is finalized can be interpreted as an attempt to manipulate the process and, if proven, may affect your child's standing in the process.
2. All communication regarding the process during tryouts must go through the Division Manager, until the team is set. Once a coach has been named and is in charge of the team, the coach may directly communicate with families to inform them of the schedule, but any parent-coach communication is expected to go through your Division Manager.
3. The Division Manager is unable to provide you with individual details of your players scores, placements or otherwise. Please refrain from asking. Communication will be provided to all of the players at the same time and will be communicated through the rep website page and/or email communication.

**Volunteering**

Every family is expected to volunteer at least once in the evaluation weekend as we need several volunteers per session (Sign in table, game bench, timekeeper, dressing room monitors). The volunteer schedule will be posted to the website before sessions begin.

1. Volunteers who go on the bench must be on the opposite bench from their player.
2. No family will be asked to volunteer more than once during a round.
3. If there are not enough volunteers present for any given session, the session will not start.
4. If you are not able to attend your assigned volunteer session, it is your responsibility to find a replacement, not the Division Managers.

**Aug 25th-Aug 28th Atom/Bantam**  
**Midget Aug 25 (Combine) Aug 29-31**

Atom and Midget divisions will not have declarations. All skaters will be placed on evaluation teams for the duration of the evaluation weekend, after which time the process in Phase 2 will be followed.

All Skaters in each division will participate in the Combine Testing for skills evaluation. After Combine Testing, every effort will be made to try to ensure that the scrimmage groups in tryouts are as balanced as possible based on position and combine test scores. In addition, line up cards will be posted in each dressing room before each scrimmage with different players playing together as a line or defensive pairs each game.

At the end of each evaluation day, the competitive director and evaluators will meet to review the scores, review player rankings, identify and deal with any inconsistencies, and determine a course of action/focus for the next day of evaluations

*Note: All players shall ensure that the following criteria are adhered to:*

- no identifying pant shells are to be worn
- identifying helmet stickers are to be removed
- either LMHA socks or solid black socks shall be worn
- Players will not be permitted to participate in the LMHA evaluation weekend if the above criterion is not met.

**Goaltender Skills Evaluations**

- Goaltender skills sessions Atom through Midget will be held on Thursday August 24th.
- Shooters will be players declaring A1 in the same division, Atom/Midget shooters will be asked to volunteer as shooters for the purpose of goalie evaluations
- Qualified, independent evaluators will perform evaluations.
- Approximately 12 goaltenders will advance from the skills evaluations to the scrimmage component of the evaluations, dependent upon numbers in each division, this number could be reduced.
  - 4 Goaltenders will advance to the A1 Group.
  - 8 Goaltenders will advance to the A2-A4 Group.
  - All remaining goaltenders will be place in the C division
**A1 Declaration, (Aug 26) Peewee/Bantam**

- A1 head coaches will all be ratified before the process begins
- Independent evaluators will conduct evaluations as well as the A1 ratified head coach.
- For all divisions, there will be one combine skills session and three scrimmages.
- The second, third, fourth ice times for all divisions on each day will be scrimmages.
- Skaters/Goalies will be guaranteed 1 ice time for the A1 declaration.
- After skate one, 30 skaters and 4 goaltenders will remain in the A1 declaration
  - This will be comprised of 18 forwards and 12 defensemen, all remaining skaters/goalies will skate in the A2-A4 scrimmages Sunday/Monday
- The competitive director, A director, Director of Player/Coach Development will review player movement to A2-A4 group.
- New Groups will be posted on the website by approx. 11pm Saturday, August 26th.
- Skaters remaining in the A1 declaration group will have 2 more scrimmages, one on Sunday and one Monday.


- Pending A2 and A3 (and A4 where applicable) head coaches will be ratified by the beginning of this process, whenever possible.
- Evaluations will be done by independent evaluators and A1 ratified Head Coach
- Players moved after skate 1 of the A1 pool will join the A2-A4 Group for remainder of the evaluation weekend.
- All skaters in all divisions are guaranteed a total of 4 ice times, consisting of 1 skills (Combine Testing), 3 scrimmages
- After the final skate and moving into Phase 2, two groups will be formed based on player rankings, Group A will be comprised of the 30 skaters and 4 goalies from the A1 declaration along with the top 10 skaters and 2 goalies from the A2-A4 Group.
- Group B will be comprised of the next 30 skaters and 4 goalies.
- If a division does not have an A4 team then these numbers will be reduced
- Groups will be posted to the LMHA website by 10am Monday Aug 28th, players not listed in either group will be released to C hockey

**Group A, Group B, Phase 2 (Aug 30-Sept 1) All Divisions**

- The A1 and A2 coaches together will have primary responsibility for player selection at this stage of the process.
- This phase will be comprised of three ice times (Aug 30-Sept 1) run together by the A1 and A2 coaches. The A1/A2 coaches and A3 potential coach will run group B, if one has been identified.
• This phase can consist of a mix of skills sessions and scrimmages as decided by the coaches. Scrimmages will be interleague exhibition games with officials and Scorekeeper/timekeeper (3 game maximum)
• During this phase, players may also experience movement between the A/B groups based on performance.

**Group A, Group B, Phase 3 (Sept 5-8th) All Divisions**

• The A1 and A2 coaches together will have primary responsibility for player selection at this stage of the process.
• This round will be comprised of three ice times (Sept 5-Sept 8) run together by the A1 and A2 coaches. The A1/A2 coaches and A3 potential coach will run group B, if one has been identified.
• This phase can consist of a mix of skills sessions and scrimmages as decided by the coaches. Scrimmages will be interleague exhibition games with officials and Scorekeeper/timekeeper (3 game maximum)
• During this phase, players may also experience movement between the A/B groups based on performance.
• During this phase, the number of skaters between these groups may be reduced to minimum of 60 skaters, and goalies to a minimum of 8, provided that there are 4 Rep teams in the division, otherwise these numbers may be further reduced to reflect the number of Rep team in the division.
• Players released during this phase will be assigned to C hockey
• Remaining players upon completion of these skates will be designated into A1/A2/A3/A4 pools and move onto Phase 4.
• Below is an example of the composition of players and pool size moving to Phase 4:
  A1 - 17 skaters + 3 goalies
  A2 - 15 skaters + 2 goalies
  A3 - 15 skaters + 2 goalies
  A4 - 13 skaters + 1 goalie
• Players/Goalies moving into Phase 4 will be guaranteed to play on a Rep Team.

**Team Practices and Final Rosters, Phase 4 (Sept 9-Sept 17th)**

• The A1-A4 pools (minimum 60 skaters and 8 goaltenders) will practice and play exhibition games as a team during phase 4 (Sept 9-Sept 17th).
• Between Sept 9th-Sept 17th ratified coaches (or designate) will conduct team practices and be allowed to participate in exhibition games outside of the association for a maximum of 6 ice times to include games and practices.
• Players may still have the opportunity to play their way between pools up until the final placements Sept 17th, at which time A1-A4 teams will be finalized. (coaches may choose to make their final selections prior to the 17th)
• All final placements at this stage will be made by the teams’ head coaches, and signed off by one of the following executive members (President, VP Ops, A Director).

LMHA have set roster numbers at 15 skaters and 2 goaltenders (maximum roster of 17 skaters and 2 goaltenders). Should the head coach determine he/she wishes to include additional roster numbers he/she may:
• At the final release date advise LMHA he/she will be keeping up to 2 additional skaters which is to include injured players who did not participate in evaluations should coach wish to roster the injured player
• These skaters are additional and no releases can be made to reduce the roster to 15.

At any time during the evaluation process, LMHA reserves the right to reduce the number of rep teams if the caliber of players available is not deemed to be strong enough, as well as the right to increase the number of players in the pools based on player rankings.

**Midget Tryouts**

LMHA will attempt to have a Midget A3 team this year provided that the number of players registered for Rep Evaluations support a team at this level. At any time during the evaluation process should the number of players decline due to players withdrawing from the process, LMHA has the right to reduce the number of Rep teams.

* Midget phases will be dependant on number of teams, and may or may not follow same format.

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