

NWCAA

EVALUATION

PROCESSES AND TIMELINES

AUG 2021



2021/2022 NWCAA EVALUATION TIMELINES AND PROCESSES

OBJECTIVES

The NWCAA recognizes the Elite Hockey evaluation process can be a difficult and stressful time for both aspiring athletes and their families. We are hopeful that Covid-19 situation will not affect this year's evaluation process. Therefore, we ask for everyone's support in creating as positive of an environment as possible. The NWCAA has created this document to outline the evaluation timelines and processes for the NWCAA U13, U15, U16 and U18 AAA/AA divisions. Please familiarize yourself with this information. We also ask you to take the time to have a direct conversation with your aspiring elite hockey player on the broad range of realistic outcomes during the evaluation process. A realistic perspective and expectation of the NWCAA evaluation process will significantly contribute to making this as positive of an experience as possible.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- ❖ At no time shall a parent or guardian approach or contact any of the Coaches regarding evaluations. If a Coach requires contact with a parent or guardian, they will be contacted by a NWCAA Representative or Team Coordinator.



- ❖ All questions shall be directed to a NWCAA Representative or Team Coordinator which will be present at all evaluation sessions, email is listed below. We also ask that if the matter is sensitive or emotional in nature that you please observe the 24-hour rule. Cameron Horb U13coordinator@nwcaa.ca , Sean Adair U15 U15coordinator@nwcaa.ca , Jim Edwards U16 U16coordinator@nwcaa.ca , Vince Gaudet U18 U18coordinator@nwcaa.ca
- ❖ Abusive, harassing, and non-constructive conversations, emails or phone calls **will not be** tolerated under any circumstances. The NWCAA Executive will swiftly react to these situations and the resulting outcomes / decisions will be final.
- ❖ Please familiarize yourselves and your player with the NWCAA 2021/2022 Team Handbook located on the NWCAA website (www.nwcaa.ca), specifically the Code of Conduct and Conflict Resolution Procedures section.
- ❖ During the evaluations, it is expected all players will show respect for each other. If a player shows a lack of respect or is found to be bullying any other player this **will not be** tolerated, and the NWCAA Executive will swiftly react and the resulting outcomes / decisions will be final. We always have the safety and well-being of the players as our priority
- ❖ Coaches can and will speak to aspiring players directly without the parents or guardian notification.
- ❖ Coaches will be present on the benches for every game.
- ❖ Trainers will also be present at ice time.
- ❖ Full equipment is required, including mouth guard and neck guard.
- ❖ Parents, Guardians, and siblings are not permitted in the dressing rooms.



- ❖ It is your (player, parent, guardian) responsibility to check the NWCAA Website DAILY during the evaluation process as we do not send emails or contact by phone during this time.
- ❖ Players are selected exclusively by the respective coaching staff and are final. There is no benefit to consulting with external or 3rd parties or NWCAA Board members with respect to the evaluations or player selection. The NWCAA Board only provides processes and protocols for team drafts and selection, the board is not involved in team selection
- ❖ NWCAA U18 aged players who have been released to Junior or WHL teams and are subsequently released by their respective Junior or WHL teams must return home to their association (NWCAA). The returning player must register for evaluations regardless of where the home association (NWCAA) is in the evaluation process. Note this only applies to
- ❖ NWCAA U18 aged players released to Junior or WHL teams. All other players **must** register in the NWCAA before the registration deadline.
- ❖ Junior A or WHL Invites to Main Camp – the NWCAA supports our players efforts to play at the highest level and understands the difficult decisions that families need to make. The U18 AAA process is extremely competitive, and players will only be evaluated on the sessions they attend. In order to have the best possible opportunity and evaluation, it is recommended that players attend all tryout sessions. The NWCAA has a policy that players need to attend a minimum of 2 of the first 3 tryouts in order to be eligible to play for the U18 AAA Flames. Exceptions may be made for returning U18 AAA Flames players attending Junior A or WHL camps. Exceptions may also be made when other unique circumstances occur and will require approval **in advance** from the NWCAA President, the team coordinator, and U18 AAA Head Coach.



- ❖ If a player is missing a U18 AAA tryout due to a conflict with a camp (Junior A or WHL only) you MUST CONTACT by email Claudia Issler at admin@nwcaa.ca There is no need to notify the NWCAA if your Calgary player is attending camp prior to tryouts. The NWCAA will receive a notice of all players attending camps from Hockey Calgary – Letter of Permission. Notify the NWCAA only if the player is missing a tryout date because of a Junior A or WHL Camp. Please include the following in the email:
 - Name of player
 - Date of Birth
 - Camp Team
 - Expected date of return (if Known)
- ❖ In the event of an injury please notify the onsite NWCAA Representative as soon as possible or via email if not possible at the time. If your player is unable to continue tryouts, the coaching staff has the sole discretion as to whether the injured player will be selected for the final roster.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS AND PROCESSES

Effective Aug 1, 2021, and are subject to change

There are certain COVID-19 protocols set out by AHS and WinSport Facility which are as Follows.

- ❖ **Spectators will only be permitted in WinSport's viewing area. Only NWCAA Board Members working the evaluation and Accredited NWCAA Coaches, Trainers and Referee's will be permitted on ice level. Any parents trying to gain access to ice level will be removed immediately.**
- ❖ **If a player, coach, etc. is diagnosed with COVID -19 then AHS protocols will be followed.**
- ❖ **Player will go to the assigned dressing room and remain there until their ice time begins**



Player arrival (Drop off and pick up)

- All players are required to register at the lower entrance at ice level, prior to each session.
- Players must arrive no earlier than 40 minutes before their scheduled ice time. 10 minutes is allocated for check in, prior to entering the facility and 30 minutes to complete final on ice equipment preparation inside the facility.
- Players will have 30 minutes after the end of their scheduled ice time to leave the facility.

On ice etiquette

- Bench Coaches will be responsible for ensuring users adhere to the following while on the ice;
- No spitting and clearing nasal passage during ice session and within facility.
- Limit group celebrations (handshakes, fist bumps, high fives)
- Ensure on ice participants are practicing physical distancing when not involved in game play as much as possible.
- Discourage cheering and yelling.

Parking Lot

- To ensure the safety of all, WinSport has imposed a no loitering rule in our parking lot. Once you have dropped off your child or have completed your ice time, please return to your car immediately.

Hand Sanitizer

- Hand Sanitizer units are available throughout the facility, including entry and exit points. WinSport encourages all players to sanitize their hands frequently, especially before and after their ice session.



Water Access and Bottles

- Facility water fountains will be limited to water bottle taps only. We do, however, recommend all users fill their water bottle at home to reduce the touching of surfaces.
- The sharing of water bottles is not permitted, please label your bottle with your name to avoid using others. While on the ice, there will be designated water bottle markings to place your water bottle both on the top of the boards at the benches and on the benches as well, to reduce confusion and maintain distancing.

GENERAL PROCESSES for 2021/22 SEASON

GOALTENDER (ALL LEVELS) TIMELINES AND PROCESSES

Goaltenders only evaluation's:

- All Goaltender only sessions are based off drills from Hockey Canada's Goaltending Program of Excellence
- All Goaltender sessions are evaluated by invited Goaltender instructors from a variety of goaltending schools and instructional groups.
- All sessions are overseen by a qualified third party and all Evaluator's rankings are revealed within the group to expose and avoid any bias created by Evaluators and their knowledge of Goaltenders.
- Evaluators with personal ties to Goaltenders are requested to remove themselves from the rankings of that Goaltender but may still provide notes instead of rankings.
- The goal of the sessions is to rank Goaltenders based on their technical abilities to give the NWCAA Coaches a head start on strengths and weaknesses of the Goaltenders.
- Some goaltenders may be released after this initial session. Those released should report to their home/community associations.



Goaltenders are not selected or released based on rankings. This is only one data point. Gameplay evaluation observed by the NWCAA coaches is the major determining factor. Goaltender only sessions:

U13 – Saturday August 28, 2021 – 2 sessions

U15 – Saturday August 21, 2021 – 3 sessions

U16 – Sunday, August 22, 2021 – 2 sessions

U18 – Saturday August 28, 2021 – 2 sessions

Goaltenders moving on to the next phase of tryouts will join their age group evaluations as per the posted evaluation teams and times which can be found on the NWCAA website. This should be checked daily as changes can be made to teams.

U13 AA Timelines

- August 28– tryouts for all goalies, 2009 and 2010 born goalies.
- August 29-Sept 2– tryouts for all eligible U13 aged players (2010/2009). Games played based on published rosters. Please check the NWCAA website daily.
- September 1 – Dark day, no games will be played today.
- September 2 – Final game play.
- September 3 – U13 draft will take place. U13 tryout rosters will be posted Sept 4, 2021, on the NWCAA website. Practice ice times posted to each team microsite and Team snap.
- If your player is not drafted to a U13 tryout team, they need to report to their home/community associations.



- Sept 6 - 12– evaluations continue with published tryout rosters.
- September 11-12 two exhibition games.
- Final release date as mandated by Hockey Calgary is September 13, 2021. The NWCAA will have their final rosters set prior to this date. All players released at this time must report back to their home/community association.

U15 AA/AAA Timelines

- August 21– tryouts for all goalies 2007/2008 born goalies.
- August 21– Checking sessions for all first year U15 players born in 2008.
- August 22-27– tryouts for all eligible U15 aged players (2008/2007). Games played based on published rosters. Please check the NWCAA website daily.
- August 25 – U15 Black out day (Day of Rest)
- August 26/27 – First releases and rosters adjusted for Red and White Games and Stamps and Bruins Games.
- August 28 – Releases and the U15 draft will take place. The U15 AAA Team tryout roster and the U15 AA Team tryout rosters will be posted on the NWCAA website. Tryout rosters will be posted by Aug 29, 2021. Practice ice times posted to each team microsite and Team snap.
- If your player is not drafted to a U15 tryout team, they need to report to their home/community associations.
- August 30st - Sept 19 – evaluations continue with published tryout rosters.
- Final release date as mandated by Hockey Calgary is September 22nd. The NWCAA will have their final rosters set prior to this date. All players released at this time must report back to their home/community association.



U16 AA/AAA Timelines

- August 22, – tryouts for all U16 (2006) aged goalies.
- August 23-25 – tryouts for all U16 aged players and goalies.
- August 26 – U16 Black out day (Day of Rest)
- August 26 -First releases and rosters adjusted for Red and White Games and Stamps and Bruins Games.
- August 27 – Red and White Games and Stamps and Bruins Games.
- August 27 - Releases and the U16 draft will take place. The U16 AAA Team tryout roster and the U16 AA Team tryout rosters will be posted on the NWCAA website on August 28. Practice ice times posted to each team microsite and Team snap.
- If your player is not drafted to a U16 tryout team, they need to report to their home/community associations.
- August 30st - Sept 26 – evaluations continue with published tryout rosters. Note that anytime post August 31st a U16 aged player or goalie can be moved to the U18 group during evaluations.
- Final release date as mandated by Hockey Calgary is September 27th. The NWCAA will have their final rosters set prior to this date.



U18 AA/AAA Timelines and Processes

- August 28, – tryouts for all U18 aged goalies (2005 and 2004 born goalies).
- August 29 – 31 – tryouts for all U18 AA/AAA aged players.
- September 1 – U18 Black out day (Day of Rest)
- September 1 - Rosters adjusted for Red and White Games
- September 2-3 – Red and White Games.
- September 3 - Releases and the U18 draft will take place. The U18 AAA Team tryout roster and the U18AA Team tryout rosters will be posted on the NWCAA website on Sept 4, 2021. Practice ice times posted to each team microsite and Team snap.
- If your player is not drafted to a U18 tryout team, they need to report back to their home/community association
- Final release date as mandated by Hockey Calgary is September 27th. The NWCAA will have their final rosters set prior to this date.
- Rosters for U18 AAA shall consist of 20 players and U18AA shall be 19 players.

Regards

NWCAA Board

