



EVALUATION  
PROCESSES  
AND TIMELINES  
AUG 2022

# 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. 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, U17 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 also listed below. We also ask that if the matter is sensitive or emotional in nature that you please observe the 24-hour rule. Please contact the appropriate age group U13 - [U13coordinator@nwcaa.ca](mailto:U13coordinator@nwcaa.ca) , U15 - [U15coordinator@nwcaa.ca](mailto:U15coordinator@nwcaa.ca) , U16/U17 - [U16coordinator@nwcaa.ca](mailto:U16coordinator@nwcaa.ca) , Vince Gaudet - U18 - [U18coordinator@nwcaa.ca](mailto: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 2022/2023 Team Handbook located on the NWCAA website ([www.nwcaa.ca](http://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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.
- ❖ If a player played at a certain level the year prior this does not guarantee they will play on the same team this year. All roster spots need to be earned. Coaches will make all final decisions on the team rosters.
- ❖ 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](mailto: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.



## GENERAL PROCESSES for 2022/23 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 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 27, 2022 – 2 sessions

U15 – Saturday August 20, 2022 – 3 sessions

U18 – Saturday August 27, 2022 – 2 sessions

U16 – Sunday, August 21, 2022 – 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 27– tryouts for all goalies, 2010 and 2011 born goalies.
- August 28-Sept 1– tryouts for all eligible U13 aged players (2010/2011). Games played based on published rosters. Please check the NWCAA website daily.
- August 31– Dark day, no games will be played today.
- September 1 – Final game play.
- September 2 – U13 draft will take place. U13 tryout rosters will be posted Sept 3, 2022, 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.



- September 6 - 11– evaluations continue with published tryout rosters.
- September 10-11 two exhibition games.
- Final release date as mandated by Hockey Calgary is September 12, 2022. 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 20– tryouts for all goalies 2008/2009 born goalies.
- August 20– Checking sessions for all first year U15 players born in 2009.
- August 21-26– tryouts for all eligible U15 aged players (2008/2009). Games played based on published rosters. Please check the NWCAA website daily.
- August 24 – First releases and rosters adjusted for Red and White Games and Stamps and Bruins Games.
- August 25-26 - Red and White Games and Stamps and Bruins Games.
- August 26 – 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 27, 2022. 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 29 - Sept 18 – evaluations continue with published tryout rosters.
- Final release date as mandated by Hockey Calgary is September 19. 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 Timelines – All 2007 Born Players

- August 21 – tryouts for all U16 (2007) aged goalies.
- August 22-24 – tryouts for all U16 aged players and goalies.
- August 25 – U16 Black out day (Day of Rest)
- August 25 - First releases and rosters adjusted for Red and White Games and Stamps and Bruins Games.
- August 26 – Red and White Games and Stamps and Bruins Games.
- August 27 - Certain players will be selected to skate in the U18/U17 Evaluations starting Aug 28. Tryout rosters will be updated Aug 27. U16 AA preliminary tryout roster will be posted Aug 27 as well. All others must report back to their home community association.
- The final tryout roster for U16 AA will be set once the U18,U17 tryout rosters have been finalized on September 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Note that anytime post August 31, a U16 aged player or goalie can be moved to the U18 group during evaluations.
- September 7 - September 25 – evaluations continue with published tryout rosters.
- Final release date as mandated by Hockey Calgary is September 27<sup>th</sup>. The NWCAA will have their final rosters set prior to this date.



## U17 AAA/U18 AA/AAA Timelines and Processes

- August 27, – tryouts for all U18 aged goalies (2006 and 2005 born goalies).
- August 28 – Sept 1 – tryouts for all U18 AA/AAA aged players.
- August 31– U18 Black out day (Day of Rest)
- August 31 - Rosters adjusted for Red and White Games
- September 6 – Red and White/ Stamps and Bruins Games.
- September 6 - Releases and the U18 draft will take place. The U18 AAA Team tryout roster, U18AA Team tryout rosters, U17 AAA Team tryout roster and the U16 AA roster will be posted on the NWCAA website on September 7, 2022. Practice ice times posted to each team microsite and Team snap.
- If your player is not drafted to a tryout team, they need to report back to their home/community association
- September 7 - September 25 – evaluations continue with published tryout rosters.
- Final release date as mandated by Hockey Calgary is September 26th. The NWCAA will have their final rosters set prior to this date.
- Rosters for U18 AAA shall consist of 20 players and U17 AAA, U18AA and U16 AA shall have 19 players.



## NWCAA U18AAA, U17 AAA, U18 AA and U16 AA evaluation process clarification.

- 1) August 21 – August 26, only the 15-year-olds skate together (2007).
  - a. The U18 AAA coaches, the U17 AAA coaches and the two U18 AA coaches select the top 15-year-olds to skate in the U18 group.
  - b. A few 15-year-olds could be cut back to community at this time.
  - c. The remainder of the 15-year-olds will skate with the U16 AA coaches Aug 29 to Sept 1.
- 2) Aug 28 – Aug 31, will see the top 15-year-olds and the 16- and 17-year-olds skate together.
- 3) After the Red and White game, the U18 AAA coaches will select the players for U18 AAA main camp.
- 4) The U17 AAA coaches will then select players from the remaining 15- and 16-year-olds.
- 5) The U18 AA coaches will then draft their players for tryout camps (could be 15-, 16- or 17-year old's) 15-year-old's (2007) will need to agree to play in this league.



## NWCAA U18AAA, U17 AAA, U18 AA and U16 AA evaluation process clarification continued.

6). The remaining 15-year-olds (2007) will go to the U16 AA team.

7). Releases will be as follows.

### U18 AAA

- i. Any 17-year-olds released will go to U18 AA teams.
- ii. Any 15- or 16-year-olds will go to U17 AAA.

### U17 AAA

- i. U18 AA will have first right of any 15- or 16-year-olds.
- ii. If U18 AA does pick them then the 16-year-olds are released to community and the 15-year-olds go to U16 AA

### U18 AA

- i. Any releases go back to community or can be picked up by the other U18 AA team.

### U16 AA

- i. Any releases go back to community.

