

Delmarva Raptors Tryout and Team Selection Policy

Goals

- To provide a fair and impartial assessment of a player's total hockey skills during the skating and scrimmage sessions.
- To ensure that players have a reasonable opportunity of being selected to a team appropriate to their skill levels as determined during the on-ice evaluations and input from prior year's coaches.
- To provide coaches with the opportunity and flexibility to build a team based in part on their own coaching philosophy and knowledge of player skills and attitude.
- To provide uniformity and consistency in the evaluation process such that a player and parent expectations are consistent from year to year as players move through the various levels of the association's programs.
- To form teams to maintain balanced and competitive play where the athletes can develop and participate equitably and have fun playing hockey during the season.
- To provide feedback in order to develop players.

Try-out Policies

- Players will be evaluated by the Hockey Director and three (3) independent evaluators.
- It is strongly encouraged that players attend all, or as many, of their scheduled tryout sessions as possible. Players who are on the ice have the best chance to demonstrate their ability. Conflicts are inevitable no matter the level of planning. The evaluators will use their best efforts, with the information and input available to them, to appropriately place players who have had conflicts with the tryout schedule or were unable to participate due to an injury or extenuating circumstances. The Raptors will make every effort to ensure that a player will not be denied a roster spot simply because he or she was unable to attend the tryout.
- If a player moves into the area after tryouts and is interested in joining the Raptors, a supplemental evaluation will be held at the beginning of the season. In these situations, Raptors Hockey Director and evaluators will evaluate the new player along with existing players to ensure that the player is placed on the correct team.

Team Selection Policies

- After the completion of the on-ice tryouts, the Hockey Director and evaluators will meet to determine team selections. These final team selections shall be based on their tryout performance as evaluated by the independent evaluators as well as team coaches. Once the independent evaluators have made their team selections, the team coaches at each level may have three (3) coaches picks for each team, if they so choose.

- If a parent is a coach at the same age level their child is playing at, said child/player shall automatically be placed on the same team as their parent is coaching.
- As much as possible there should be a consistency of evaluators for a given age group. This continuity ensures that the players are being observed by a group of evaluators who have a benchmark for performance and knowledge of the overall ability of the group that they are observing. Generally the evaluators should:
 1. Review the evaluation criteria prior to the process to ensure that all evaluators are evaluating the same skill with the same intent.
 2. Stay separate from the spectators and parents during the entire on-ice process..
 3. They shall not share comments or opinions with any players/ parents or other interested observers.