

AVHA Tryout Process and FAQ's

- Why are tryouts closed?
We believe it is in the best interests of the child to close our tryouts to parents to eliminate extra pressure on an already stressful situation.
- Who are the Evaluators?
A committee of former coaches, current coaches and the PDC are evaluating the players. None of the evaluators will have children at that level.
- Who will be on the Ice?
The on-ice personnel are responsible mainly for operations of the practice and do not take an active role in "coaching". This is an evaluation of where the players are currently.
- What are players evaluated on?
The Players will be ranked on a scale from 1-5 on a variety of attributes including:
 1. Skating - balance, strength, acceleration
 2. Stickhandling/puck control
 3. Passing - ability and also willingness
 4. Shooting- release, accuracy, effectiveness
 5. Hockey Sense - on-ice movements within the flow of play, engagement in play, application of demonstrated principles to game situations
 6. Attitude - effort, energy, listening, attention span
- The Evaluation Scale:
 1. Excellent: Top form and technique. Demonstrates all necessary characteristics.
 2. Good: Some form breaks and technique weakness. Demonstrates most of the necessary characteristics.
 3. Average: Form is emerging, form can be imitated, and weakness may be in strength, speed and application. Technique is not consistent.
 4. Below Average: Has basic skills but speed, strength and application are significantly below standard
 5. Beginner: Poor form
- Try-out sessions:
 - After sessions one and two players will be regrouped with the top half being placed in one group and the bottom half in the other.
 - The third or fourth day will consist of 30-40 minutes of opportunity for players to distinguish themselves amongst that group. In addition, there will be roughly 40-50 minutes of crossover time with the opportunity to compete against the "other group". This would be an opportunity for a player to prove that he/she may have been incorrectly placed initially. After the third session we will repeat the same procedure and regroup the players.
 - The fourth session emphasis will be on scrimmages. After the fourth session we will regroup players one last time.
 - The fifth session emphasis will also be on scrimmaging. Teams will be determined after the fifth session or after scrimmages for Bantams and Pee Wees.
 - Evaluation scores will be used to place players at the appropriate level for play (A, B, C) in District 6 schedule.
 - If scores are close, preference will be given to the 2nd year vs. 1st year player.
 - Per District 6, our A teams need to be our largest rostered team at a level.
- Previous year's information is considered but is not the determining factor. Players should not assume that because they have been an "A" player their whole life that it automatically puts them on the A team this season.
- Injuries:
Accommodations will be made for players who are unable to participate in tryouts. Upon getting medical clearance and indication from the parent that player is "ready" for a tryout. The player will be placed with a team that has been determined to be the best starting point. The player will then be given the same amount of "tryout time" as the other players were given. The player may participate at a variety to levels to gauge where he/she is the best fit. Upon completion of the tryout period a player will be placed at the appropriate level. If a player is added to a team, another player will not be subtracted.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns please feel free to contact me at pdc@applevalleyhockey.com or Tim Everson, AVHA President at president@applevalleyhockey.com

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