



EMHA DEVELOPMENT, TRYOUT AND EVALUATION SKATE POLICY

Updated: February 2026

- Players who were not registered with EMHA the previous season must register for Development Skates and pay the EMHA-set development skate fee in full before taking the ice. **No exceptions or refunds.**
- A cost will be set by EMHA and applied to Development Skates for players who were not registered with EMHA the previous season.
- All players must be registered in accordance to EMHA Registration Policy and all fees (including tryout fee) must be paid in full prior to stepping onto the ice for tryouts. **No Exceptions.**
- A cost will be set by EMHA and applied to Tryouts. This fee must be paid prior to the player taking to the ice.
- Each player will be guaranteed at least two tryouts before being released.
- No Tryouts will be held for the U7,U8, and U9LL-18LL divisions. Group evaluation and team designation will be done by coaching staff, IP Coordinator, LEO Rep and Coaching Director. In the case that Ennismore fields a Roster Select team, all players in that division will be notified of the evaluation process.
- Players must have full equipment and protective gear including mouth and neck guard as per OMHA regulations. This is for insurance purposes. Players will not be permitted on the ice without them.
- Players must attend all Tryouts unless still trying out at the higher level. Then they must notify the Coach. Team Coach is to be advised if Player cannot attend Tryout due to illness & injury. Medical note will be required. Player must obtain prior permission from the Coach for all absences other than medical. Permission will be at the Coach's discretion. Fees will not be refunded for missed tryouts.
- All decisions by the Coach for Player's team placement or release is final and will be supported by the Executive.
- **Under the Authority of OMHA Regulation 2.4 a), EMHA has established the following criteria pertaining to Tryouts at a higher age division.**

“OMHA Regulation 2.4 b): A player shall be eligible to attend evaluations and, if qualified by ability, may register and play for a Representative team in the next higher division. Associations cannot prevent underage players from attending evaluations in the higher division. Example: A Minor-age U13 player would be eligible to try-out and sign with either the U13 team, the U14 team or the U15 team.”

- Any player wishing to try out for a division above their registered age group must submit a written request to the EMHA Executive by **April 15th** of the upcoming season.
- The EMHA Executive will make a decision after the final registration deadline.
- Requests may be declined if:
 1. Allowing the move would cause too many players in the higher division, or
 2. It would jeopardize the ability to field a team in the player's proper age division.
- Players must attend tryouts at both their own age division and the higher division. After the first tryout at their proper age level, the coach may choose to hold a roster spot for them and release

them from further tryouts at that level so they can continue at the higher division.

- Players may apply to try out for the Rep team only in the division above.
- Underage players are not eligible to try out for 2nd Entry teams in a higher age division.
- If released by the higher division Rep team, the player must return to their proper age division.
- To ensure fairness and development opportunities for all EMHA players, any underage player approved to try out for a higher division must meet the following criteria to be eligible to make the team:
 1. **Forwards:** Must be ranked in the **top three** at their position.
 2. **Defencemen:** Must be ranked in the **top two** at their position.
 3. **Goalie:** Must be top goalie for the team which they are trying out for.

EMHA Executive will appoint 2-3 members of the hockey community as an evaluator. Members of the Evaluation Committee will be free of conflict of interest. Player will be evaluated for 2 tryouts. Coach will release the player on the recommendation of the Evaluation Committee.

- The above policy applies to U9MD through U18 Rep divisions only. It does not apply to U21 or U9LL and below.
- For U21, U18 players may try out only with EMHA Executive approval.