



Milton Minor Hockey Association – 2024-25 Tryout Policy

Our Mission

To bring to the community of Milton a quality hockey experience that positively impacts the lives of the participants and especially serves to deliver outstanding value to the children, parents/guardians, families, and the community of Milton.

Our Vision

To be Ontario's best Hockey Association. For us, being the 'best' means developing our players at both the House League and Representative levels, through providing value and quality engagements that really make a difference in the participants and families lives and encourage and promote participation through fair play:

- Leading through player development at all levels
- Making quality, integrity, and excellence the hallmarks of the Association and its members
- Attracting, developing, and motivating the best people to serve as volunteers.
- Continually growing and improving our Association to reflect the community of Milton.
- Uphold the philosophical ideals and the rules and regulations set out by the MMHA Constitution, the Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA), the Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF) and Hockey Canada (HC)

Our Values

Quality We are committed to excellence - in the results we achieve and in how we achieve them.

Integrity We do what is right for the children, our families, spectators, volunteers, officials, community, and ourselves as members.

Respect for People We promote a diverse culture and an environment of inclusion and mutual respect for the children, our family's, spectators, volunteers, officials, community, and ourselves as members.

Leadership We value people at every level who lead by example, take pride in what they do, and inspire others.

Collaboration We value teamwork – working together to achieve common goals is the foundation of our success.

The MMHA and all participants, parents and guardians do agree to represent and promote the Values of the organization as the foundation for fair play, truth and what's beneficial to the children in our organization.

Our Objectives

The objectives of the Association shall be:

- To promote, encourage, govern, organize, coordinate, and develop MMHA hockey programs for all ages up.
- To protect and serve the mutual interests of **ALL** MMHA members.
- To encourage a strong sense of community pride and participation in the MMHA
- To carry out fair competition and strive to achieve the highest level of success, where appropriate

Our Goals

The Goals of the Association are as follows:

To encourage and promote certain ideals in all participants: to play fairly under all circumstances and all conditions to give opponents a fair chance and not take unfair advantage of any opponent to win modestly and receive defeat with a smile to give credit to the team that wins not to question or dispute the referee's decision.

- No child is left behind.
- No one person is valued more than the other.
- The Executive and the Board of Directors act on behalf of the membership and shall remain objective and unbiased.



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Guiding Principles:

- To provide a fair and impartial assessment of a player's total hockey skills
- 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 form competitive well-balanced teams of players who respect their peers, their Coaches and competition, and compete to win whilst not compromising the spirit of the game.
- This Policy may be amended by the MMHA from time to time. Any changes will be posted to the MMHA website.
- Players/Goalies must be registered and in good standing, and tryout fees must be paid prior to tryouts starting.
- At the discretion of the VP of Rep and the team’s coach, late registrants for tryouts must be registered and available for the first tryout at a given level, otherwise they will tryout at the next level.
- A development provider will be conducting all on-ice skills and drills.
- Full equipment is mandatory, players will be assigned a numbered pinnie upon check-in.

Objective(s):

- To effectively evaluate and select players for the MMHA Rep Hockey program.

2024-25 Rep Tryout key information (Does not apply to Initiation Program):

Level Players Should Start at For Tryouts

- Players must tryout 1 (one) level above the level they wish to play.
- Players are only permitted to tryout 2 (two) levels above the level played in 2022-23 season unless an invitation has been provided directly by the coach and approved by the VP of Rep.
- Goalies are permitted to tryout 2 (two) levels above the level played in 2022-23 season unless an invitation has been provided directly by the coach and approved by the VP of Rep.

Example: In the 2023-24 Season a player played for BB, this player would be permitted to tryout for the AA team in 2024-25.

Injured players

In the event a player is injured and unable to participate in the tryout process, the VP Rep shall retain discretion to make decisions in extenuating circumstances or in situations where it is felt that the policy, above, is being exploited to unfairly advantage or disadvantage a player or player(s). Such decisions shall be made in consultation with the player’s current coach, if any, and shall be approved at the executive level before being implemented.



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Tryouts for White & Blue Teams

When MMHA A or BB Programs consist of two teams - a White Team and a Blue Team. Players do not register specifically for the "White" or "Blue" team, they register to Tryout for the Division. For example, they are not able to specifically register for "U13 A White" or "U13 A Blue", they are registering for "U13 A". At the Tryout, they will first be trying out for the White team. If they are not selected for the White team, they will then be released to the Blue Tryout.

Players are not permitted to bypass the White Tryout and only try out for the Blue team. If a player chooses not to attend the majority of the "White" Tryout Sessions (typically, the first three days) they will not be eligible to be selected by the Blue team, nor will they be an eligible AP for the Blue team in the upcoming season. For example, the U13 A Tryout consists of 5 skates. The first three are for selecting the White team, and the last two to finalize the Blue team. If a player elected to skip 2 or more of the U13 A White Tryout skates the U13 A Blue team would not be allowed to select that player. If that player moves on and is selected to the U13 BB Team, they will not be an eligible AP for U13 A Blue in the upcoming season.

Split Session Tryouts

Many of the Tryouts (First Day) may include one or more "Split Sessions." A Split Session is when a single Tryout Session is split into two individual skates. For example, there could be a Split Session on Monday at 7:00pm and 8:00pm. This is a single Tryout Day, but half of the participants would go to the 7pm skate and the other half to the 8pm skate - you will only attend ONE of the skates. In the event of a Split Session, you will receive an email from the coach either the evening prior or the morning of the Split Session to inform you which of the two skates you are to attend. If you have not received an email from the coach by the morning of the Tryout, please contact the coach directly for assistance.

Mandatory Body Contact Clinics

All U14 players as well as any U15 and older who have never attended a Body Contact Clinic are required to attend a Body Contact Clinic before attending a Rep Winterhawks Tryout for A and AA. You will not be allowed to try out if you have not completed the clinic. Goalies do not have to attend these clinics.

Not Accepting an Offer of Commitment or Requesting a Release

- If a parent/player wishes to skip tryouts per "One Level Above" rule, then the parent(s)/player must request a release from the MMHA Tryout Committee a minimum of five days ahead of the beginning of tryouts. Please complete the [Tryout Discharge Form](#).
- MMHA Tryout Committee will determine if a release is granted, and if so, to which team the player will be released to. If a player is not granted a release or does not apply for one and subsequently does not show up for tryouts they may be ineligible to play representative hockey in any capacity for the upcoming season. The ruling of the MMHA Tryout Committee shall be deemed final.
- If a player is offered a roster spot on a team and the player/parent refuses to sign with that team, without having received prior approval by the MMHA Tryout Committee, they may be ineligible to play representative hockey in any capacity for the upcoming season. The ruling of the MMHA Tryout Committee shall be deemed final.

Request a Withdraw/Refund

If you need to make any changes or if you would like to withdraw from the Tryouts and request a refund, please reach out to our admin staff at the MMHA office. **NO REFUNDS WILL BE PROVIDED AFTER THE TRYOUT HAS BEGUN!**



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Player Lists and Selection

- Players/Goalies will be notified of their tryout status within 6 hours after each tryout session, via the MMHA website, parents will use the players pinnie # to identify their child.
- For any tryout starting after 6:30pm Players/Goalies will be notified of their tryout status, via the MMHA website by 10:30am the following morning. Parents will use the player's Pinnie # to identify their child.
- Final Player selections will be communicated via the MMHA website.
- Upon the completion of the final evaluation session, each remaining candidate will either be offered a roster spot on the team or asked to begin the tryout at the next level.
- Player Selection criteria are specific to age and level and shall be evaluated using drills that aim to allow players to demonstrate specific skills, tactics, behaviors, overall hockey knowledge and intellect.
- Off-ice evaluators will be responsible to evaluate the players on the ice during the time allotted. Evaluators generally include: the Head Coach, evaluators of the Head Coach's & VP of Reps choosing, and independent evaluators assigned by MMHA.
- Off-Ice evaluators can not have a child that plays in the same age group that they have been asked to evaluate. (e.g., 2004 A coach cannot be an evaluator for 2004 AA team)
- The Head Coach has the final decision as to the players that will be offered roster spots.
- All Final Rosters will be vetted by the VP of Rep.
- Players may be offered roster spots after each tryout, but not before the first tryout at each level.

If you are not able to attend a Tryout due to injury, illness, or schedule conflict please inform the coach directly.