

Wolverines Hockey Club



2024-25

Goaltender Evaluation Summary and Guide

Goaltender Evaluation Summary and Guide



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Goaltender Evaluation Summary and Guide



1. Introduction

This document was developed by the WHC Executive to highlight and explain the process used to evaluate and place Goaltenders. Please note that this document is subject to change without notice. If you have any questions about the document or process, please contact the info@wolverineshockey.ca.

To participate in the Wolverines Goaltender Evaluation process, all Goaltenders must be registered members of the Wolverines Hockey Club (WHC), regardless of whether they are trying out for Elite (Quadrant) Hockey or not. As of 2014, U15, U18, and U21 Goaltenders participating in Elite Hockey tryouts are no longer obligated to pay their WHC fees during registration; instead, these fees will be due after their release from Elite Hockey tryouts.

1.1. Summary of Process

The goaltender evaluation process consists of two distinct parts; technical skill sessions and 5 on 5 games (there may be 4 on 4 games in the U11 group). In both the skills sessions and the 5 on 5 games, a comparison process is used whereby the Goaltenders in a particular group (usually a group of 4 Goaltenders) are ranked from top to bottom. These rankings are then used to determine the movement for the next ice time. Rankings will be determined by External Goaltender Evaluators.

The player selection process in U9 contains “half-ice” 4 on 4 games. U11 Goaltenders are expected to participate in the ice times they sign up for. However, they are not evaluated during these “half-ice” 4 on 4 games.

There are no goaltender evaluations in U7 (Timbits) or U9. WHC does evaluate and place dedicated Goaltenders to all teams in U11, U13, U15, U18, and U21 (if applicable).

It should be noted that affiliations to Elite hockey do not affect or come into consideration in the WHC Goaltender selection process. Goaltenders affiliated to Elite hockey teams will be placed on a WHC team based on their performance during the WHC Goaltender selection process.

1.2. Administration

The age group coordinators that sit on the WHC Board of Directors (BOD) are responsible for both the player and Goaltender evaluations administration in conjunction with WHC Goaltender Coordinator Hockey Development and the WHC Executive. The External Goaltender Evaluators are responsible for documenting and maintaining all results from both the skill sessions and the 5-on-5 games. These results are to be communicated daily to the WHC Executive. Once the final rankings are determined, the final team placements will be documented and communicated to the age group coordinators.

It is important to note that Wolverines Hockey Club is committed to making the evaluation process as fair as possible. This process has been developed to try to give all Goaltenders equal opportunity to compete and obtain a position that matches their relative skill level. We have tried to contemplate as many scenarios that may arise as possible in the process and will use best efforts to make the process fair.

2. Pre-ranking of Goaltenders

Prior to the technical skill sessions, it is essential to pre-rank the Goaltenders to determine the initial groupings for the sessions. All Goaltenders will undergo a skills session where the External Goaltender Evaluators will assign group placements based on their assessment.

In the event of a tie during the trials, the following protocol will be followed to establish a final ranking:

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- If there's a tie between a second-year Goaltender and a first-year Goaltender, the second-year Goaltender will be positioned in the higher-pre-ranking position.
- For ties between Goaltenders of the same year, the tiebreaker will be determined by their rankings in the final Goaltender selection process of the previous year.
- If neither of these criteria resolves the tie (for instance, if neither Goaltender was evaluated in the previous year), the tie will be broken at the discretion of the External Goaltender Evaluators.

3. Grouping

Grouping sizes are left up to the External Goaltender Evaluators and can change in size from ice time to ice time.

4. Technical Skill Sessions

4.1. Evaluators

Goaltenders will be evaluated by External Goaltender Evaluators for all technical skills.

4.2. Process

There are 2 separate technical skill sessions, each proceeding with drills that are more difficult each night to show the overall skill set of the Goaltenders.

- **Session 1:** Will not have shooters and will be movement sessions only.
- **Session 2:** Age group coordinators will supply shooters for the technical skills session:
 - Shooters for U11 and U13 can be U18 age players or adult volunteers.
 - Shooters for U15 and U18 will be adult volunteers.

Each group of Goaltenders will rotate through all of the nets during a skill session.

External Goaltender Evaluators will rank the group of Goaltenders at the net they are watching from one to three, four, or five (depending on the number of Goaltenders in the group); one being the most proficient and three, four, or five being the least proficient at that specific drill amongst the Goaltenders in that group. Ties are not permitted. All Goaltenders are ranked in order of proficiency, top to bottom.

At the end of each night's skill session the rankings will be handed in from the External Goaltender Evaluators to the WHC Executive, and this is documented in the evaluation software. The external evaluator provides the executive with the rankings to be collected in the software.

The External Goaltender Evaluators will also provide the groupings for the next game. Important to note that groupings may not necessarily reflect current rankings.

Rankings will not be posted. The WHC Executive will review the results daily and the family will be emailed by the age group coordinator via the software of their child's group for the next session.

5. 5 on 5 Games

5.1. Evaluators

The External Goaltender Evaluators conduct all of the 5 on 5 Game Evaluations. They rank the Goaltenders in each game against the other Goaltenders in the game and report back to the WHC Executive. Best efforts will be made to have the same External Goaltender Evaluators for all games within each age group to provide consistency between games.

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5.2. Process

There are generally two to four 5 on 5 games for each group, depending on the age group. The number of games is determined by the associated age group coordinator conducting the player selection process. The number of Goaltenders participating in each game will be dependent on overall Goaltender registration numbers and at the discretion of the age group coordinator with advice from evaluators. Each Goaltender will receive equal playing time within the game play structure and will be rotated equally to face players from both teams. Goaltenders must stay for the entirety of the game regardless of when they complete their playing time. This allows the entire evaluation process to be completed should an injury take place. The rankings from the skills sessions will be used to determine the initial groupings for the 5 on 5 games.

After each game, the External Goaltender Evaluators provide the WHC Executive with the rankings to be collected in the software. They will also provide the groupings for the next game. Important to note that groupings may not necessarily reflect current rankings.

6. Goaltender Evaluation System

All Goaltenders are evaluated and ranked according to their demonstrated ability in each of the following facets of the game of hockey. External evaluators will be ranking Goaltenders based on the facets that WHC thinks is important to the identity of a WHC Hockey Goaltender. Each Goaltender will be evaluated on 5 components on a 10-point sliding scale.

1. Movement (20%)

- a. T push, shuffle, butterfly slide, backside push
- b. Movement into and out of their post position
- c. Technique, strength and speed of movement
- d. Control and structure of the movement

2. Positioning (20%)

- a. How the Goaltender uses their movement
- b. Ice awareness with adjustments to their position based on how the play is developing
- c. Proper depth and angles

3. Ability to make the save (20%)

- a. Save selection
- b. Making saves versus pucks hitting pads
- c. Tracking the puck into and out of the save with their eyes

4. Rebound control (20%)

- a. Controlling each shot with appropriate recovery
- b. Low shots controlled with stick, backed up by pad
- c. High shots controlled with gloves
- d. Body shots kept into the body

5. Battle and compete (20%)

- a. Willingness to compete and try to make a save
- b. Does everything to stop a puck even if it is likely they will not make the save
- c. Ability to scramble to make a save
- d. Ability to be creative in a scramble situation

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7. Goaltender Evaluation Rubric

Categories	1-2 (Lowest)	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10 (Highest)
Movement	Limited	Developing	Competent	Strong	Dominant
Positioning	Limited	Developing	Competent	Strong	Dominant
Ability to make the save	Limited	Developing	Competent	Strong	Dominant
Rebound Control	Limited	Developing	Competent	Strong	Dominant
Battle and compete	Limited	Developing	Competent	Strong	Dominant

8. Goaltenders not attending Evaluation sessions

If a Goaltender is unable to make their evaluation game due to an excused sickness or injury, they will remain in the group they were in for that skills session or game. If more than one skills session or game is missed due to sickness or injury the Goaltender will be placed based on the advice of the External Goaltender Evaluators in consultation with the WHC Executive. Previous years coach may be consulted if WHC executive and External Goaltender Evaluators feel it is necessary. A doctor's note will be required.

If a Goaltender is unable to make their skills session or evaluation game for a non-medical reason they will be moved down 2 ranking spots for the following game, and 2 ranking spots for each additional game missed. If the Goaltender misses all of their skills sessions and games due to non-medical reasons the WHC Executive and External Goaltender Evaluators will place them on the lowest team and assess their skill level within that peer group (i.e. If the age group has teams 1 through 6, the Goaltender will be placed on 6). If movement is required the Goaltender will be moved accordingly by WHC Executive

9. Goaltenders attending Elite Hockey Tryouts

Goaltenders attending Elite (Quadrant) hockey tryouts are encouraged to communicate with the WHC age group coordinator after they have been released from their Elite hockey team. This enables them to enter the Wolverines process and participate in the evaluation.

Goaltenders are encouraged to focus on their Elite hockey tryouts and to stay away from the Wolverines evaluations until such a time as they are released from their Elite hockey team.

10. Final Placement of Goaltenders on Teams

The External Goaltender Evaluators will have the discretion to remove a Goaltender from the process if they determine that the Goaltender is the top performer in their age group and further evaluation is unnecessary. In

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such cases, the Goaltender will be informed of their top ranking and will no longer need to compete in the process. This discretion has been provided to enable the evaluators to focus on assessing Goaltenders who are closer in skills and abilities.

Wolverines Hockey Club attempts to place 2 Goaltenders on all teams, assuming enough Goaltenders have registered to match the number of teams in each age group. The WHC Executive will monitor the estimated number of teams and Goaltenders during evaluations and report to Hockey Calgary with our current estimated +/- Goaltender count.

If there are excess Goaltenders in an age group and WHC is unable to place a Goaltender on a Wolverines team, WHC will try to assist the Goaltender(s) in finding another association to play with. These discussions will start at the end of the skills sessions if it is clear there will be an excessive number of Goaltenders. Alternatively, the Goaltender can stay in WHC by switching to a player and will be placed on a team in accordance with the team selection process for players.

If WHC are short Goaltenders and have the opportunity to pick up additional Goaltenders to fill vacancies, WHC will use a modified process to place them on Wolverines teams. If a vacancy exists at the end of the process and no other Goaltenders are available in Hockey Calgary, WHC will assign a single Goaltender to some teams. This will usually not occur in the top 2-4 teams or the bottom team in an age group to allow for calling up a Goaltender if required.

The External Goaltender Evaluators will finalize the Goaltender rankings and forward to the BHS Executive for the final team selection and placement meetings (for details refer to the WHC Evaluation Information Summary and Guide). The age group coordinators will contact the head coaches for each team and supply them with their team player lists. Once finalized, Goaltenders will be contacted with the final team placement

11. Grievances

With the evaluation of players being fully outsourced and controls in place to identify anomalies through our electronic systems, there is no longer a grievance process.

12. Abuse or Harassment

WHC has a zero-tolerance policy for abuse of any kind or format towards volunteers and Board Members. Any individuals not acting in accordance with this policy may have a Game and Conduct investigation or hearing being initiated.

13. Summary of Updates

May 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Added Clarification on Goaltender Evaluation system with % category breakdown- Added Goaltender Evaluation Rubric
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