



Woodstock Wildcats Girls Hockey Association

3 Huron Street. P.O. Box 20089

Woodstock, ON N4S 8X8

www.woodstockwildcats.com

POLICY: WWGHA Tryouts & Team Selection

Tryouts for U11- U18 teams will occur in the spring after Provincial Championship weekend.

Schedules for these tryouts will be made available on the website.

U9 will only hold 1 set of tryouts/evaluations in the Fall for all teams so players will need to attend from the beginning of tryouts.

Ensure that you arrive with plenty of time prior to the start of your tryout sessions. This will allow your player to sign in and collect any information that may be distributed.

U11 thru U18 Tryout Process

Tier I teams will have 5 ice times provided to them for their tryout process. One of these ice times will be dedicated to having an exhibition game to be arranged by the Coach of that team.

- Ice time length for first 2 skates may vary due to the number of anticipated participants, to allow for the tryout session to be split into 2 groups.
 - Ice time lengths for the balance of the skates may vary depending on the age and level of the players. (i.e. U15-A, U18-BB, U18-A require longer ice times due to their 1.5-hour requirements).
- Players may be released after the first skate for Tier I Tryouts.

Tier II teams will have 4 ice times provided to them for their tryout process. One of these ice times will be dedicated to having an exhibition game to be arranged by the Coach of that team (if the Coach has not been pre-selected for this team, a board member may assist in arranging an exhibition game).

- Ice time lengths for first 2 skates may vary depending on the number of anticipated participants to allow for the session to be split into 2 groups.
- Players may be released after the first or second skate for Tier II Tryouts dependant on the number of participants and will be up to the head coaches discretion.

Tier III teams will have 2 ice times provided to them for their tryout process.

- No Players will be released until after the completion of the skates for Tier III Tryouts.

Tier IV teams (if applicable) will have 2 ice times provided to them for their tryout process.

- No Players will be released until after the completion of the skates for Tier IV Tryouts.
- If Tier IV level is HL, and the possibility of a 5th team arises, the HL teams will not be divided until the Fall (at the beginning of the season) due to the possible addition of new HL players to the organization, as this would increase the numbers on the HL teams if needed.

**Tryouts for U9 and U11 are subject to change depending on OWHA/Hockey Canada requirements.

- Due to the high numbers of registrants trying out at each age division, we suggest that players enter the tryout process where they feel most comfortable.
 - We offer tryout entry points for Tier I, Tier II, Tier III teams & in some age groups HL.
- Player selection will be based on each player's ability, knowledge of the game, and attitude. It is recommended that all players attend all tryouts to have the best opportunity to make the team.
- Each try-out player will be given pinnies with a number on the front/back for evaluation purposes
 - Pinny distribution is up to the coaches, and colour and/or numbers may change from session to session. (Coach needs to ensure that lists of players/pinnie # are correct for the registration table and evaluators.
 - After completion of the session please make sure that all of the pinnies are returned to registration desk.
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POLICY: WWGHA Tryouts & Team Selection (Cont.)

- If a player has a conflict and cannot attend a try-out session, discussion with the head coach is necessary and it is then up to the coach to decide if the player is still eligible for try-outs at that level if a session is missed.
- If a player is injured and unable to attend tryouts, they must provide a doctor's note. At the discretion of the coach, the player may be granted a spot on the team based on the coach's evaluation of the player.
 - (This decision must occur before the tryouts at the next lower level begin).
- Player movement up an age category is not allowed; however exceptions may be made at the sole discretion of the Wildcats Executive. (See Wildcats Handbook - PLAYING ON HIGHER AGE LEVEL TEAM)
- Roster size for all representative teams is to be seventeen (17) and is to include fifteen (15) skaters and two (2) goalies. (See Wildcats Handbook – NUMBER OF PLAYERS ON TEAM)
 - In the opinion of the coaching staff, if there are not enough players whose abilities match the requirements of the proposed level of play the coaching staff may select a smaller roster after discussion with the Woodstock Wildcats Board for permission to reduce their roster size.
 - Any request to carry additional players on any level of Rep team must also be approved by the Woodstock Wildcats Board.
 - Final approval for any deviations from the set roster size must be approved by the Woodstock Wildcats Board.
- Teams are required to have their final rosters selected in time for the next team to offer tryouts to players being released. (Prior to the start of the next tier Tryout)
- Team Selection All teams (U11-U18) will make their full team selection during the spring tryouts.
 - If a coach is looking to add an additional player to the roster after the team has been selected, and there is room for such player, this must be discussed with, and approved by the Board on a case-by-case basis.
- All Representative Player releases will be made online.
 - The coaching staff may also perform selection / releases (by letter, personal interviews, or posting on the Wildcats website). If posted on website, each player will have a player code (which will be provided to each player and stay with them throughout the entire tryout process). We strongly recommend coaches to use only the player codes during the selection process and only name the players on the website who have made the final roster at the completion of the selection process.
- Coaches for Tier I & Tier II teams will provide the Players and Parents an outline of their expectations for all team members prior to the first tryout (or at 1st tryout attended by the player). Tier I and Tier II teams should also provide budgetary financial obligations above and beyond registration fees at this time.
- Once selected to a team, players and parents are expected to fulfil their obligation of payment of all registration fees. Other team fees will be collected by the team throughout the course of the season.
- Head coaches must use some outside evaluators (with no conflict of interest with that team).
 - List of evaluator names must be submitted to the board, prior to the start of tryouts.
- It is recommended that Head coaches limit the involvement of other Parents who also have daughters' trying out for the team, due to a conflict of interest.
 - This is sometimes unavoidable due to on-ice insurance policies, but coach should verify approval of helpers whether on-ice or evaluators.
 - The coaches must provide a list of on-ice helpers to the Board, prior to tryouts, to ensure that both they are insured and that there is minimal conflict of interest.
- Where a team official's daughter is trying out for the team, the Board will decide internally or appoint an independent evaluator(s) to determine whether she merits a spot on the team.
 - The Board will also review this prior to the coaching selection process..