



## North Shore Whitecaps AAA Zone Tryout and Evaluation Policy & Guide

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### Purpose

The purpose of this document is to ensure transparency and consistency in the tryout and evaluation process across all North Shore Whitecaps AAA Zone teams. Our goal is to provide a fair and structured environment where players are evaluated based on skill, effort, coachability, and overall potential to contribute to the team. This guide outlines procedures, expectations, and associated costs.

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### Registration Process

All players must be registered through their Hockey Canada Registry (HCR / Spordle) account prior to participating in tryouts. This is a mandatory step to ensure player eligibility and insurance compliance.

- Once a player is properly registered, they will receive a tryout number from the team's head coach prior to their first skate.
- This tryout number will correspond with the jersey or pinny number assigned by the coach for each session.
  - *For example: if your tryout number is 17723, the coach may assign you jersey number 17, and will track that #17 is John Smith (tryout number 17723) for evaluation purposes.*

- The tryout number assigned will remain the same for the entire duration of the tryout process.

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## **Tryout Costs**

Each player must pay the applicable fee before stepping on the ice. Fees cover the cost of ice time, referees, timekeepers, and evaluation materials.

Session Type	Cost per player
Regular Tryout Skate	\$30.00
Home Exhibition Skate (Playing)	\$40.00
Home Exhibition Game (Not Playing)	\$20.00
Away Exhibition Game	No Cost

Note: Exhibition games require additional resources including referees and timekeepers, which is reflected in the adjusted pricing.

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## **Evaluation Process**

1. Players will participate in a series of evaluation drills and, where applicable, exhibition games..
2. Assessment Criteria:
  - Skating Ability
  - Puck Skills (handling, passing, shooting)
  - Game Sense / Hockey IQ
  - Work Ethic and Compete Level

- Coachability and Attitude
  - Positional Awareness
  - Team Play
3. Exhibition Games: These provide an important opportunity to see players perform in a game setting. Not all players will play in every exhibition game, but all players will have the opportunity to demonstrate their skills across tryouts.
4. Tryout Number & Communication of Results:
- After each skate, coaches will post release information on the team website using the tryout numbers (not names) of those who are no longer moving forward.
  - Players who are either selected for the team or invited to the next evaluation skate will also be identified by tryout number on the website.
  - Please check the website regularly for updates following each skate.

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### **Expectations of Parents and Players**

- Respect the Process: Trust that coaches are making decisions based on what's best for the team and organization as a whole.
- Be Supportive: Encourage your child to give their best effort and maintain a positive attitude.
- No Sideline Coaching: Let coaches evaluate without distraction or interference.
- Questions & Feedback: Should you have any questions or concerns about the process, they should be directed to the Head Coach or Zone Executive after the conclusion of the tryouts.

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## **Coach Responsibilities**

- Maintain clear, unbiased, and consistent evaluation standards.
- Ensure fairness by involving independent evaluators when possible.
- Provide a professional and safe environment for all participants.
- Communicate clearly and respectfully with families throughout the process.
- Ensure timely and accurate updates are posted using tryout numbers on the website.

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## **Final Notes**

We recognize that tryouts can be a stressful time for players and families. Our commitment is to provide a fair, respectful, and transparent process that identifies players who will thrive within our program. We thank you for your cooperation and for being a part of the North Shore Whitecaps AAA community.