



GLENLAKE
MINOR HOCKEY CLUB

Evaluator Information/Training

2019/20 Season



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Role of the Evaluator

Responsibilities of the Evaluator

Scouting Tips for the Evaluator

Player Evaluation Criteria

Dispelling the Myths

Questions and Answers



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Role of Evaluations and Evaluators

Evaluations:

- Get the right players on the right teams
- Similar skill levels together - enables the players to contribute
- Goal - HAVE FUN!!

Evaluators:

To make the process work, each evaluator must:

- Be objective
- Observe on ice play only – resisting using past knowledge of the players
- Evaluate on association criteria (not their own)



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Responsibilities of the Evaluator

The system depends on evaluators' ethics and integrity

- **Honesty** – wrongly favoring one player:
 - Cheats at least one other player in evaluations
 - May handicap a team of other players for the entire season
 - May put the favored player in over their head
- **Commitment** – attendance is crucial
- **Focus** – impossible to properly evaluate without full attention for the full session
- **Impartiality** – everyone has biases (personal, about hockey, etc.) ; recognize and acknowledge them and set them aside
- **Independence** – statistical validity requires NOT comparing notes
- **Professionalism** – do not discuss specific players with anyone, especially your child; be quiet at the rink (the walls have ears)



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What to Do While Evaluating

Where to sit - it's about the “optics”

- Sit where you can see the full ice – and stay there
- Don't sit right next to **AND DO NOT CHAT WITH** other evaluators (“conspiracy”)
- Absolutely DO NOT sit with parents

How to keep track of what you see

- Try to keep all information on one page (point form notes)
- Start by focusing on one thing at a time
- Jot down comments on as many players as you can - will help you gather your thoughts at the end
- Rate what you see NOW - be accurate - no speculative ratings

Evaluating a scrimmage

- Watch the warm up - Start to identify the players in the top and bottom groups by watching basic skill execution
- Don't get caught up in the game; watch the players - You are a “scout” not a fan
- Follow the play away from the puck as well as around the puck
- Try to watch each player at different stages of the game (start – middle – end)



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Glenlake Player Evaluation Criteria

- Timed Drills – Novice, Atom & PeeWee
- Skills
- Game play criteria
- Forward specific criteria
- Defensemen specific criteria
- Intangibles



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Timed-Drill Sessions – Novice, Atom and PeeWee

- Timed drills replace evaluation session # 1
- Results used to determine players starting grid position
- Basic forward/backward drills with and without pucks are posted on the Glenlake website
- Timed drills results will not carry over to the remainder of the evaluation process

3rd Party Supplier: Fuel Performance Testing



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Mandatory Head Coach Evaluation Commitment

Change from last year...

- Continuing for the 2019/20 Evaluation season all Head Coach Applicants are encouraged evaluate sessions



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Evaluation Criteria - Skills

Skating

- ✓ Executes tight turns both ways
- ✓ Executes cross over turns both ways
- ✓ Stops facing either direction
- ✓ Accelerates well
- ✓ Maintains good balance while skating
- ✓ Executes all skating skills at top speed
- ✓ Skates well laterally, forward and backward

Shooting

- ✓ Shoots with power and accuracy
- ✓ Releases shot quickly
- ✓ Executes forehand and backhand shot
- ✓ On forehand executes wrist, snap and slap shot

Passing

- ✓ Passes accurately
- ✓ Receives pass with control
- ✓ Passes and receives passes at top speed
- ✓ Executes forehand and backhand passes
- ✓ Makes adjustments to receive off-target passes

Puck Handling

- ✓ Controls puck without looking down
- ✓ Stick handles, doesn't just push the puck
- ✓ Executes tight turns with puck, on forehand and backhand
- ✓ Stickhandles beyond 45 degrees in front of body; Able to protect puck by using body to shield it from defender

**** Evaluate skills continually, in scrimmages as well as skill sessions**

**** Pay close attention to skating – weak skating puts a ceiling on a player's potential**



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Evaluation Criteria – Game Play

Hockey Sense

- ✓ Anticipates the play
 - ✓ Reads and reacts (transition)
- ✓ Playmaking and Decision-making
 - ✓ Vision, imagination
 - ✓ Creates time and space
 - ✓ Identifies options
 - ✓ Makes high percentage play
 - ✓ Good decisions under pressure
 - ✓ Patient
- ✓ Plays well away from the puck
- ✓ Provides offensive and defensive support
- ✓ Smart shift changes
- ✓ Plays ALL 200 FEET of the ice surface

Offensive Play (Player's Team Has the Puck)

- ✓ Creative and varies tactics
- ✓ Uses speed variation and top speed
- ✓ Handles puck at top speed
- ✓ Handles puck in traffic
- ✓ Patient with puck
- ✓ Avoids give-aways
- ✓ Provides passing option to team mates

Defensive Play (Other Team Has the Puck)

- ✓ Forechecks and backchecks to regain possession
- ✓ Aware of and covers open opponent
- ✓ Head on a swivel and active positioning
- ✓ Anticipates play



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Evaluation Criteria – Game Play (continued)

Positional Play

- ✓ Know role in defensive zone, defending and on offence
- ✓ Knows role in offensive zone, forechecking and on offence

Determination

- ✓ Full effort all the time
 - ✓ Offensively
 - ✓ Defensively
- ✓ Strong on the puck
 - ✓ Offensively when protecting it
 - ✓ Defensively when checking
 - ✓ When battling for loose pucks

Physical Play

- ✓ Boards and Corners
 - ✓ Battles hard - Not afraid of contact
- ✓ Physical Presence
 - ✓ Makes most of size and strength - Holds ground
- ✓ Conditioning
 - ✓ Stamina through shift and game
- ✓ Checking
 - ✓ Knows how to execute checks of all kinds
 - ✓ Priority is puck separation
 - ✓ Avoids making dangerous hits



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Evaluation Criteria – Forward Specific

Offensive Play

- ✓ Supports puck
- ✓ Creates options - Looks for open ice
- ✓ Executes offensive skills
- ✓ Protects puck
- ✓ Has Scoring touch
- ✓ Forecheck
 - ✓ Works hard
 - ✓ Active stick
- ✓ Pays attention to team mates on the forecheck
- ✓ Understands F1, F2, F3 system

Defensive Play

- ✓ Anticipation
 - ✓ Reads play, controls gaps
 - ✓ Understands pressure vs. contain
- ✓ Positioning
 - ✓ Angles well
 - ✓ Understands defensive side positioning
 - ✓ Active positioning away from puck
 - ✓ Covers for rushing defensemen
- ✓ Backcheck
 - ✓ Works hard
 - ✓ Picks up open opponent
 - ✓ Head on a swivel
 - ✓ Active stick



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Evaluation Criteria – Defensemen Specific

Defensive Play

- ✓ Anticipation
 - ✓ Reads play, controls gaps
 - ✓ Understands pressure vs. contain
- ✓ Positioning
 - ✓ Angles well
 - ✓ Active away from puck
 - ✓ Understands defensive side positioning
- ✓ Skating
 - ✓ Strong backward skater
 - ✓ Mobile
 - ✓ Good lateral movement
 - ✓ Pivots well
 - ✓ Can transition fwd/bwd & bwd/fwd

- ✓ Against the Rush
 - ✓ Identifies the odd man rush and defends accordingly
 - ✓ Takes away middle
 - ✓ Doesn't get beaten wide
- ✓ Net Front
 - ✓ Head on a swivel
 - ✓ Aware of passing lane
 - ✓ Active stick

Offensive Play

- ✓ Supports puck
- ✓ Creates options – jumps up into play
- ✓ Protects puck
- ✓ Intelligent/accurate first pass out of zone
- ✓ Rushes the puck if/when opportunity presents itself



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Evaluation Criteria - Intangibles

- **Disciplined**
 - ✓ Avoids lazy/stupid penalties
 - ✓ Contains negative emotions / Body language
 - ✓ Deals well with adversity
- **Competitive**
 - ✓ Doesn't quit
 - ✓ Shows courage
- **Team Player**
 - ✓ Uses teammates
 - ✓ Makes unselfish plays for best team result
 - ✓ Positive attitude toward teammates
 - ✓ Avoids excessively long shifts



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Dispelling the Myths

- **Myth - The kids who have the puck the most are the best players.**
 - Better to ask:
 - ✓ Does player win puck battles ?
 - ✓ Does player play position properly?
 - ✓ Does player assess options and make intelligent play?
 - ✓ Does the player protect the puck well?
- **Myth - The kids who score must be the best players.**



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Dispelling the Myths (continued)

- **Myth - The bigger the better.**

But:

Sydney Crosby, Pittsburgh Penguins – 5'11", 200 lbs.

Johnny Gaudreau, Calgary Flames – 5'9", 150 lbs.

- Maybe, if all else is equal, but all else is never equal.
- Better to ask:
 - ✓ Does the player compete, win puck battles?
 - ✓ Do the player's skills and hockey sense make him effective despite his/her size?



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