



Bedford & District Minor Hockey Association
BMO Centre
61 Gary Martin Drive
Bedford, NS
B4B 0G7

It's hard to believe that we are mid-August already. The time surely is flying by. At the risk of interrupting your summer with hockey news, a general update is likely necessary. Registrations are posted for the 2021-2022 season and evaluation fees are also posted and require some background.

Hockey Nova Scotia has stipulated that evaluations cannot start before October 1st. We've typically had evaluations shortly after Labor Day weekend in the past along with a spring ID session at the conclusion of the season. While there are mixed feelings on the spring ID session, it does allow some initial groupings and manageable numbers into the fall sessions. Due to COVID-19, we've been unable to hold these sessions in the spring of 2020 and 2021. The annual Jordan Boyd Tournament is held on the October 15-17 which is a little later than normal. We are still awaiting final word on the team mix for this tournament, but it puts a hard deadline on some aspect of our process if you factor in teams getting on the ice at least once or twice before puck drop of their first game of the season.

With all this said, we are working on an evaluation schedule that is comprehensive but also factors in some of these scheduling matters. As a result of all of this, we've come up with a schedule and fee structure that is somewhat different than prior years. More details below.

The tentative plan at the moment is to hold U13AAA and U11AA evaluations initially and between October 1-4th. There will be a different fee structure for those choosing to participate in these sessions. Given the scheduling constraints and the lack of a spring ID to initially sort the kids, we are looking for this initial session to be limited to those vying for spots on these teams. The remaining levels, will commence on Tuesday, October 5th. Scoring for the U13AAA and U11AA will conclude on the 4th and reset for the commencement of the remaining sessions thus there is intended to be no linkage between the two processes and it is being set up this way solely due to scheduling constraints.

The plan is to announce the U13AAA team on the 4th/5th. We are also planning on parking 15 skaters and some goalies for the U11AA process at this time also. We will have our normal two teams at U11AA but there will be some players chosen and parked on this initial weekend process with the remaining roster selected during the remaining evaluation process. There is some flux in the U11AA schedule so this is subject to change between now and then. The final U11AA tryout schedule and process is dependent on the final Jordan Boyd Tournament schedule and team mix.

As far as fees go, we are looking at \$225 for U13AAA and U11AA and \$125 for all other competitive levels. There are a variety of considerations to outline as it relates to the fees. Firstly, the player vying for U13AAA or U11AA is guaranteed 4 ice times and possibly 5. Secondly, a player paying \$225 and making the U13AAA team will get a credit of \$100 towards their seed money requirements on U13AAA (same for



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U11AA with the first 15 parked). A player not making the U13AAA team or the initial parked group in U11AA will continue on in the regular evaluation process starting on the 5th and not have to pay a secondary fee. They will get more ice time as a result.

In prior years, the spring ID fee was \$60 and the fall fee was \$120. Last season, the fall fee was \$185 and it included the purchase of a reversable practice jersey at a cost of \$35. The reversable practice jerseys now cost \$40 and they are in short supply this season. We've decided to forgo the practice jersey as an individually paid item and utilize the practice jerseys we have on hand in BDMHA. With COVID, phase 5 will allow us to proceed this way, should we stay in phase 4, we will need some extra association practice jerseys so that we do not swap them during the process thus the Executive has decided to purchase some additional practice jerseys for the association at a minimal cost.

U15 evaluations will commence October 5th (tentative). U18 is typically later in October or early November as we typically want to wait until the High School teams are selected. Tentative scheduling there is October 31st (afternoon) and onward.

At the risk of posting this and having to make changes, we felt it is important to provide some context as early as possible. This is a framework of our current plan and is subject to change as required. Any necessary changes will be communicated asap and we will refine the communication on the overall process with more specifics once they become available and more locked down.

Happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Thank you,

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VP Competitive

Bedford Minor Hockey Association

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