2016-2017 – STANDARDIZATION RE: HL PLAYER EVALUATIONS / TEAM DRAFT

The following standardizations are being put into practice to provide to all West London families,

* An open process that is consistent across all age divisions.
* An understanding of the process that will be followed in team formation.
* A structured format for on-ice evaluations and team drafts at all age divisions.
* An understanding of conflict resolution.
* To ensure fair and balanced teams.
* For the benefit of all players, parents, coaches, convenors, Board.

Registration:

1. House League registration for the 2016/17 season will be open from Monday, July 15th to Friday, August 30th. On August 30th registration will be closed, and any players wishing to register after this date will be permitted to do so only if team space is available.

NOTE: Tyke registration only will run from Monday, July 15th to Sunday, September 15th.

Requests:

1. Any player requests shall be submitted to the House League Director in writing. Generally, requests will only be considered in special circumstances, and will be dealt with on a case by case basis. **Balanced team formation will take precedent over requests.** Examples of possible requests that will be considered,
	1. First year Tyke registrant.
	2. Siblings / twins.
	3. Transportation, ie. single parent household.

Team Staff:

1. Head coach will be allowed to select one assistant coach and one trainer to ensure that each team has a coach/trainer available for all games and practices, keeping in mind that **team balance must be ensured**.
2. Coaches will NOT be allowed to recruit players to play for their team alone. Players who are late registrants (after team formation), will be evaluated by the Convenor and will be placed on a team determined by need to ensure balanced teams – both in skill level and overall player numbers.
3. HL Evaluations.
	1. At the beginning of the season, an evaluation of players overall skill level will be conducted. The evaluation process will consist of the following procedure for all divisions – Tyke through Juvenile.
		1. One week prior to HL start date evaluations, Convenors will receive a list of their respective player registrations. Convenors will contact the players / families and confirm date and time of evaluation skates.
		2. Dependent upon age level, evaluations will be comprised of skill evaluation and scrimmage play, or possibly scrimmage play solely at the Minor Midget, Midget and Juvenile divisions (at discretion of Midget / Juvenile Convenor).
		3. Convenors will secure the Head Coaches to serve as Evaluators. Convenors will also get additional help from other bench staff members to run the on-ice portion of things.
		4. Evaluation registration. Re Novice through Juvenile, At the time of evaluation registration, each player will receive a jersey to wear during evaluations. The players will wear these jerseys for the both Evaluation weekends and will return them after the 2nd evaluation.
		5. During on-ice evaluations, the Convenor and coaches will utilize a pre-determined evaluation work sheet as provided by the House League Director. These work sheets will only have jersey numbers and will not list the name of the players.
		6. Players will be ranked using a number system of 1 through 10. With 1 being the lowest skill level and 10 being the highest skill level. All Evaluators will assign 1 number to represent the sum of the skills of each player.
		7. Following completion of the 1st evaluation weekend, the Convenor will tally and average out each player ranking based **solely** upon the evaluation work sheets supplied by the Head Coaches and the Convenor. Anomalies (vast differences) for any player on the evaluation work sheets will be reviewed by the Convenor and his/her evaluation will serve as the score for that player. Player scores will be averaged out to the nearest full or half point.
		8. The 2nd Evaluation session will consist mainly of scrimmaging. The Convenor will supply the updated tracking sheets with the scores from the 1st weekend entered on the page to the Head Coaches & any other evaluators . The names of the players will not be on any of the Evaluation sheets. The purpose of the 2nd Evaluation session is to either confirm or modify the scores assigned after the 1st evaluation session.
		9. The Convenor will supply final evaluation scores for every player to the Head Coaches.
		10. The Convenor will arrange a Team Draft with their respective coaches. In advance of the Team Draft, the Convenor shall provide their coaches with an overall summary of the players rankings, ie. Listing all players and their overall evaluation ranking of 1 through 10 with full or half points awarded.
		11. Regarding the Initiation program, formerly Tyke Hockey or also known as Timbits Hockey. Further information will be added at a later date due to the changed occurring for the start of the 2016-2017 season as per the direction of the GLHA & Alliance Hockey.
		12. The Team Draft shall take place prior to balancing games being played.
4. The Team Draft shall be conducted as follows:
	* 1. The Convenor shall govern the Team Draft. Balance between the West London teams is the priority not who played together in previous seasons.
		2. Only the head coach, or designate, for each team shall attend the Team Draft.
		3. The Convenor and each head coach/designate shall have a summary of all players showing their respective ranking, as determined solely by the on ice evaluations and scrimmages.
		4. The Convenor shall provide all coaches / designates with the approved requests as provide by the House League Director to the Convenor.
		5. Head coach will be allowed to select their assistant coach and trainer to ensure that each team has a coach/trainer available for all games and practices. Team balance must be ensured.
		6. Coaches shall each pick one player at a time to ensure team balancing. Siblings / twins shall be kept together and drafted together unless the family has requested they play apart. The 1st pick in each round will
		7. Protected players shall be placed on the team first. Protected players are those of the head coach, assistant coach, and trainer.
		8. Next, players are selected to match up with the rankings of the protected players. i.e. W10’s protected players are ranked 10, 8, 7 so therefore the other team will choose a 10, 8 & 7 when they choose.
		9. Goalies are selected next. Consideration shall be afforded a team who receives a lower skill ranked goalie than another team, ie. the team with the lower skilled goalie will receive one additional strong ranked skater over a team with a higher skilled ranked goalie. Not applicable to Tyke and Novice.
		10. Players are selected starting with 10s, then 9s, and then work their way down. Each coach selects one player at a time.
		11. During the Team Draft, there shall be no Player / Parent requests taken into consideration. Exception: special circumstances will be dealt with on a case by case basis, and as provided by the House League Director to the Convenors. Balanced teams take precedent over requests. Examples of possible requests,
		- First year Tyke registrant.
		- Siblings / twins.
		- Transportation, ie. single parent household.
		12. During the Team Draft, no coach may choose two players at a time.
		13. During or after the Team Draft, no coach may interfere with the selection of another coach’s pick.
		14. There shall not be any player trades between coaches. All player trades shall be at the discretion of the Convenor and House League Director.
		15. During the team draft, coaches / designates, will not put forward player requests.
5. Following the team draft, each coach shall contact their respective team and provide introductions, team information. The Coach shall advise all team players / families that the teams shall remain in a state of flux up until after the Balancing games and immediately following the balancing games – that players may be moved to ensure balanced teams.
6. As per CHL/GLHA rules teams are not considered finalized until December 1, 2016. The WLMHA upon receiving direction from the CHL/GLHA may require players to be moved in the case of severe differences in the balance of the teams.
7. Following completion of the final balancing game, the Convenor shall meet with all head coaches to discuss team balance, and whether or not any player balance trades are necessary.
8. In the event that any player balance trades are necessary,
	1. The Convenor shall advise the HL Director.
	2. The Convenor and coaches of the players involved will advise the players / families of the trade.
9. In the event of player balance trades, any player who refuses to move to a new team will forfeit his/her season – they will be discharged from West London Minor Hockey Association, their registration fee will be returned, minus a $50 administration fee, and they will be unable to play for that season. Notification will be made by the House League Director in writing.
10. Goalies. Not applicable to Tyke and Novice. In the event that a team does not have a goalie, and there are available goalies at a level below, goalie movement of one level only may be undertaken, ie. minor Atom to Atom; major Atom to minor Peewee; etc.

Downward movement will only be considered in the rarest of situations, and only with permission of WLMHA, CHL and GLHA Alliance Rep.

In the event of two goalies being available to move up a division, order of who moves shall be based upon,
	* 1. Volunteer.
		2. Skill level – higher skill level goalie will move up.
		3. Age – older goalie will move up.
		4. In the event of equal skill and age, the last goalie to register will be moved.

In the event of a goalie being required to move downward, selection will be based upon,

1. Volunteer.
2. Skill level – weaker skill level goalie will move down.
3. Age – younger goalie will move down.
4. In the event of equal skill and age, the last goalie to register will be moved.

Failure of a goalie to agree to move will result in that goalies’ registration fee being refunded, minus a $50.00 administration fee, and their season forfeit. Notification will be made by the House League Director in writing.

1. Player Transfer Requests from one age group to the age group above. Please refer to the following file posted under the HL tab on the WLMHA website.

**WLMHA Player Movement Policy for House League Team for the 2016-2017 Season**

1. Team Size. West London Minor Hockey is committed to providing a stable and safe hockey environment to as many players as possible. West London Minor Hockey will accept late registrations in order to allow as many players as possible to enjoy minor hockey, and as our team numbers will allow. The House League Director, in consultation with the Registrar and Convenors, will determine when registration is closed in any given division due to maximum team capacity. In most instances, a team will be considered full with 15 skaters and 1 to 2 goalies.
2. It is acknowledged that late registrations poses a challenge with regards to team balance, ie. team size, proper evaluation of player skill level in context of general age group. Late registrations will be evaluated by Convenor/HL Directors on-ice prior to team placement.
3. Conflict resolution. In the instance of disputes arising during the evaluation process and team draft process, the head coach shall advise the Convenor in writing of his/her concerns. The Convenor shall notify the House League Director of the issues. A meeting shall be held within one week regarding the issues. In attendance shall be the House League Director, Convenor, and respective head coach(es) in the particular division. Failing resolution of the issue(s), the House League Director shall bring the matter to the WLMHA Board, which will decide the matter. All disputes regarding evaluation and team draft shall be made in writing no later than three weeks following the start of the season.
4. In-Season conflict resolution. In the instance of disputes arising during the season, the head coach shall advise the Convenor in writing of his/her concerns. The Convenor shall notify the House League Director of the issues. A meeting shall be held within two weeks of the Director receiving the written complaint from the Convenor. In attendance shall be the House League Director, Convenor, and respective head coach. Failing resolution of the issue(s), the House League Director shall bring the matter to the WLMHA Board, which will decide the matter.
5. These rules and procedures are a general guideline. Circumstances and issues arising outside of these procedures will be dealt with on a case by case basis. Any and all decisions made by the Board in all matters pertaining to West London Minor Hockey shall be binding and absolute.

West London Minor Hockey Association Board