EVALUATION REVIEW - PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. THE NO BRAINERS
- 1. Located at Acadia arena, with over flow where necessary at Kentville
- 2. Not more than 30 kids on the ice per session
- 3. Players in not more than 6 per group
- 4. Players identified by numbered jersey
- 5. No name bars
- 6. No spring elite teams jersey or socks
- 7. Parents can opt to try out for A\B group only
- 8. Evaluators are seated away from each other and parents
- 9. Only communication between the on ice staff and evaluators is between the lead evaluator and lead on ice staff only
- 10. Clear communication about process to parents at registration with handout, on the web site and a further hand out at registration for conditioning camp\tryouts plus a parent meeting the last night of conditioning camp.
- 11. Equal number of evaluators and on ice staff from both hockey communities.

B. PROCESS ISSUES

- 1.An evaluation committee must be struck of non executive members. They are a committee of 3. The chair must be a Board member. The committee chair should be our development coordinator. We need two other representatives. The committee members must be balanced between both hockey communities, have ample coaching and evaluation experience at an elite level and are recognized in both communities as being both fair and knowegble. I would suggest Paul, Doug Eaton and Will Brown as the committee with Paul chairing as our development coordinator.
- 2. A decision must be reached as to whether we continue with the promotion system or use a variation of the under 16\17 Centre of Excellence process. Both are time consuming and labour intensive. We have to decide if we go with a process we are familiar with

adjusted for minor hockey or continue on the learning curve in a climate where we cannot afford to make any further mistakes.

- 3. If we continue with a promotion system the following adjustments to the process must occur:
- A. One of the 3 committee members must be on site at all times to oversee and trouble shoot. They have the final say on process issues as they evolve with consultation with other committee members or big ticket items i.e. Substantial issues such as kids getting missed during a session.
- B. The division manager is the administrative assistant of the process. He\she is responsible for the following;
- getting jersies and numbers on and off players
- making sure there are no name bars and elite team garb on players
- taking attendance each night;
- with the lead evaluator breaking players into groups and then communicating the groups to the lead on ice staff
- making sure there are evaluator sheets for each player each night and distributing sheets to the assigned evaluator at the pre evaluation meeting
- collecting the evaluator sheets after the debrief and insuring there are sheets on each player from the assigned evaluators. Each must sign off
- present at the pre meeting and debrief to make sure each player is assigned to an evaluator and the evaluator sheets come in and are completed
- reports directly to the committee member
- C. The lead evaluator has the following additional responsibilities
- breaking players into groups with division manager
- assigning players\groups to evaluators and insuring that each player has an equal number of evaluators per night and each player is evaluated by each evaluator records are maintained
- lead the pre meeting and the debrief afterwards
- at the pre meeting circulates the ranking of the players based on last session so player progress can be tracked
- with division manager makes sure all evaluation sheets are collected after each session
- D. Evaluator training is lead by the evaluation committee and is detailed
- E. There is a practice evaluation process on non association players plus a walk through of the whole process the last night of conditioning camp.

- F. Evaluators are running the benches during scrimmages not parents
- G. Players are given equal ice time and are pared with and against different players of different and equal calibre during scrimmages.
- H. The process after the split to AAA\AA and A\B group is less skills and more games
- I. All 4 coaches are selected in advance of tryouts. Coaches are not assigned to teams until after the selection process is complete. If enough coaches do not apply, then they are recruited.
- J. There is a debrief after each session where all scores are reviewed. If an evaluator is 2 points different than the rest on a player he must be prepared to justify why.
- K. Players are identified by numbers only in discussions and on evaluation sheets?
- L. Evaluators are identified on evaluation sheets
- M. The evaluation committee select the off ice evaluators for each division. The division managers organize on ice staff.
- N. Appeals are held with in 48 hours of team selection before a committee of 3 members of the executive with representation from both hockey communities. The member of the evaluation committee responds to the appeal.
- O. We need a discipline policy for tryouts re physical aggression or bullying incidents on and off the ice.
- P. On ice staff police the dressing rooms before and after tryouts.

C. SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

- 1. Consistent clear detailed selection criteria. I would suggest we use Hockey Canada draft evaluation recommendation because it provides a sliding scale between games and skills depending on the level being evaluated, sample drills and detailed selection criteria for both skaters and goalies
- 2. Consistency in marking from top to bottom. Marks for any player on skills such as focus, determination drive etc. no matter at what level they are being evaluated.
- 3. A sliding scale between skills and game play.
- 4. Before final cuts are made at AAA\AA level, exhibition games are held.

5. Appeals are on process issues only. Appeals are not heard on why a player should be on a different team for substantive reasons.