

ESMHA U9 Balancing Process

Layout

- Four ice times
 - Practice - No formal balancing
 - Two Skills Sessions: Balancing takes place
 - ½ Ice Intrasquad Game: Final balancing session

Setup:

- Coaches will be given session plans to follow.
 - Each group must follow the same plan.
- Players are in two groups with assigned coaches and separate ice times.
- Assigned coaches for the on-ice group will run the provided skills sessions, while the assigned coaches for the other group will watch and evaluate.
- We ask that all coaches be available for both group sessions on the day.

For each session:

- The U9 Coordinator will give each coach evaluator a hard copy of the scoring sheet with players' names and jersey numbers/colours, a clipboard, and pens.
- Evaluators are to sit/stand around the rink, separate from each other and complete the scoring to the best of their ability, forming their own assessment.
- For each skill being assessed, each evaluator will give players a score between 1 and 5.
 - Increments of 0.5 are permitted.
 - Only enter scores for present players participating in the balancing session. Enter N/A if not there. Kids will be checked in at the entrance as well.

At the end of each session:

- The U9 Coordinator will collect each scoring sheet and enter the scores in a master scoring sheet.
- After the second balancing session, Coaching Coordinator, Development Coordinator, U9 Coordinator and representative coaches will meet to review and discuss scores and groupings.

After the evaluation process:

- Each player will have an average score for each skill and a total score from the averages.
- Players will be ranked based on their TOTAL SCORE.

Team Levels and Rosters

- Based on the balancing results, the Coaching Coordinator, Development Coordinator, U9 Coordinator and representative coaches will meet to determine the levels and rosters.

NOTE: Final levels and roster numbers are subject to approval by the ESMHA Vice-President and Hockey Nova Scotia.