



Port Moody Amateur Hockey Association 2025/2026 C Division Team Formation Process

Updated Sept 2 2025

Port Moody Amateur Hockey Association (PMAHA) follows a consistent process for forming C division teams. The goal is to create teams that are fair, competitive, and enjoyable for all players.

Phase 1: Player Evaluations

- Each player participates in 2–4 evaluation skates.
- Evaluations may include skills practices, scrimmages, or a combination of both.
- The evaluation process is overseen by an evaluator from outside the division (for example, a coach from another division).
- Evaluation criteria are set by the Association.

Phase 2: Rankings

- For U13, U15, and U18, rankings are separated by position. For U11, rankings include all skaters together.
- Rankings are based on evaluation results.
- Head coaches will review the rankings collectively with the Division Coordinator and Divisional VP present to agree on the rankings.
- Team formation meeting then begins.

Phase 3: Team Formation Meeting

Teams are created through a structured draft process designed to ensure fairness and transparency.

- Protections:
 - Head coaches may protect their own child.
 - Head coach may select one assistant coach (must be rostered to Hockey Canada Registry) and the assistant coach's child may also be protected.
 - Families with siblings in the same division may choose to keep siblings on the same team.
 - No other protections are permitted, except for exceptional circumstances (see special requests policy below).
- Draft Order
 - Each team's protected players are ranked.
 - The combined score of those protected players determines draft order.
 - The team with the lowest total score drafts first.
- Snake Draft Format
 - The draft follows a "snake" pattern: 1, 2, 3, 4 ... then 4, 3, 2, 1.
 - This rotation continues until all players are selected.
- Player Groups

- Players are organized into groups of three, based on rankings.
- Two groups (six players) are open for selection at any time.
- Coaches may choose from either of the two open groups.
- Once all players in the first group of three are selected, the next group opens.
- Selection must always come from the currently available groups
- By Position (U13–U18)
 - Drafts are conducted by position: forwards first, then defense, then goalies.
- No Trades
 - Once a player is selected, the choice is final. Trades are not permitted.

Phase 4: Team composition finalization

- Once teams have been formed, all C teams play a short series of games against other teams within the league. These games confirm that teams are appropriately placed and competitive.
- Based on performance during this phase, PMAHA or the league may recommend adjustments to ensure fair play.
- Any adjustments must be confirmed by the PMAHA Board, with input from the Division Coordinator and in consultation with coaches.
- Players may be moved during this process. Teams are not finalized until PMAHA provides official confirmation after the composition games are complete.

Special Requests Policy

At PMAHA, we know that every family’s situation is unique, and in very rare cases exceptional circumstances may affect a player’s ability to participate in a season. When this happens, accommodations may be considered with executive approval, and decisions are made with care, dignity, and respect for family privacy. When a request is approved, the player will be considered a protected player in the draft.

We also recognize that scheduling conflicts are a normal part of busy family life. While this type of information may sometimes be shared with coaches for context during the draft, it does not create a guarantee or result in a protected spot. Players are treated as usual in the draft process.

Requests related to convenience, friendships, carpooling, personality conflicts, or specific coaches are not considered.

Commitment to Fair Play:

PMAHA follows this process to provide all players with a fair, competitive, and enjoyable experience. In rare cases, extenuating circumstances may require adjustments outside of this process. If this occurs, the Board reserves the right to make changes to uphold its commitment to fair play and will communicate as openly as possible with players and coaches.