



Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Hershey Jr. Bears “Quebec Experience” evaluation sessions. A tremendous amount of preparation and dedication has gone into organizing these sessions by our coaches, managers, evaluators, and especially the players. We take this process very seriously and appreciate your participation and support.

The purpose of evaluations is to objectively assess player performance and compare skill sets in a competitive environment. Evaluators observe many different aspects of a player’s game, and while each evaluator may value certain traits differently — such as aggressiveness, skating ability, hockey IQ, or puck control — all share a common focus on effort, execution, coachability, and the ability to understand and apply on-ice instruction.

Our evaluators have experience as coaches, former players, and hockey evaluators, and understand the qualities necessary for success at the Quebec Pee-Wee Tournament level. During evaluations, a simplified scoring system is used to maximize the time evaluators spend watching players on the ice rather than writing notes. As a result, we are unable to provide detailed written evaluations for individual players.

At the conclusion of each session, evaluators rank players by position based on their overall performance. Rankings — not raw scores — are then compared among evaluators to ensure consistency and fairness. Evaluators work only from bib numbers and generally have no prior knowledge of the players participating. If one evaluator’s rankings significantly differ from the others, those rankings may be discarded. Likewise, if too many inconsistencies occur within a scorecard, the entire evaluation may be removed from consideration. On-ice coaches are typically not part of the formal evaluation process, although they may provide additional observations when appropriate.

Selecting this team is different from a traditional roster selection process. Building a successful Quebec team is much like assembling the pieces of a puzzle. Based on years of experience competing at the Pee-Wee World Championships, we look to create a balanced team with players who bring different strengths and roles to the lineup. Factors such as handedness, speed, agility, defensive ability, special teams play, hockey sense, and overall team composition all contribute to final decisions. Of course, physical play and size can also play an important role at this level of competition.

Evaluation results will be posted on our website at hersheyquebec.com. Please check the website regularly to determine whether your player has been invited back for future sessions. Be sure to refresh your browser to view the latest updates, and please make note of your player’s pinnie (vest) number before leaving each evaluation session.

Following the third evaluation session, we expect to narrow the player pool closer to the final roster size. However, final roster decisions may not be completed until after exhibition play begins in the fall.

We recognize that this process can be stressful for players and families alike, and we will do our best to communicate decisions as efficiently and thoughtfully as possible. At the same time, we understand the significance of this opportunity and will not make final decisions without careful discussion and agreement among the evaluators.

Please remember that this is an extremely competitive process, and unfortunately only a limited number of players can ultimately be selected. While many talented players will compete with great effort and determination, not everyone will earn a roster spot.

We sincerely appreciate your interest in the Hershey Jr. Bears Quebec Team and wish all players the very best throughout the evaluation process.

Best of luck,

Hershey Jr. Bears Quebec Staff