

2009 Keystone State Games

Field Hockey Tryout Procedures



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TRYOUT/TRIAL PROCEDURES

1. The intent of the format for any team tryout sport in the Keystone State Games is to involve the most participants while building competitive teams to represent the region at the Finals. Field hockey has chosen the format of registration as individuals, and tryout as individuals for selection to a roster for the Finals competition.
2. For the Youth, Junior and Scholastic divisions a player must tryout in her region of residence. If a player is temporarily residing in another region at the time of the tryout permission must be obtained from the Competition Committee, prior to the tryout, to allow the athlete to try out in the region of temporary residence. Once an athlete gains permission to tryout in their region of temporary residence, they may not tryout in their region of permanent residence.
3. Each Regional Sport Coordinator is responsible for developing a comprehensive and fair Player Evaluation Form, well in advance of the first tryout, to be used for evaluation of players and selection to rosters in all divisions in their region. The exact format may vary between regions. A blank evaluation form must be available for inspection by players prior to the tryout.
4. Selection of players to the Finals roster will be made by a competent panel of evaluators. If none of the team coaches are on the panel then the Selection Panel will contain a minimum of three people, with five being the recommended size. If one or both of the team coaches are on the panel, then the Selection Panel must contain at least five selectors. Members of the Selection Panel will be representative of the entire region, not just the coaching staff or a limited portion of the region. The RSC will chair the Selection Panel
6. To be eligible for selection to the Finals roster an athlete must attend at least one tryout/trial and be properly evaluated. It is strongly recommended that any athlete considered for selection attend one, and only one, sub-region tryout, be invited to the final trial, and attend the final trial.
7. It is understood that many functions vie for the athletes' time during the period of the tryouts/trial, and attendance at both may not be possible. For field hockey, with the RSC's approval of a legitimate reason, an athlete may attend only a tryout and still be considered for a roster slot; OR an athlete may be invited to the trial (must be properly pre-registered) without prior tryout attendance and still be considered for a roster slot.
8. Prior to each tryout a mailing will be made to the person conducting the tryout. The packet will contain a list of pre-registered athletes from that region, blank registration forms for walk-ons to complete, an entry booklet, a sheet for accounting of the walk-on money, a personnel summary sheet, and a return envelope. Since the trial is only for invitees from the tryouts, no packet will be mailed for it. The required items must be sent to the KSG office in the return envelope within one week after the tryout.
9. At each athlete's initial tryout all the data for the roster form will be recorded (height, weight, position, etc).
10. The tryouts/trial will be conducted in a professional manner, ensuring that each attendee is given a fair and proper opportunity for selection to the Finals roster.

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11. At the conclusion of each tryout the attendees should be told that they are “invited” or “not invited” to the trial. They should be informed before they leave the tryout venue. The timing of the schedule often precludes proper postal mail, phone or email notification before the trial.
12. Each coach and RSC, prior to the trial in their region, will be mailed a blank copy of the Team Roster Form that must be completed after the trial and submitted to the KSG office. The Team Roster form is also available on the KSG website. The deadline for submitting the fully completed Team Roster Form is one week following the trial, sooner if possible; with July 6 being the absolute final date for submitting any roster changes to the office. The July 6 date is set to allow the athlete to be entered into the registration system, and for completing the Finals field hockey program. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO SUBMIT ANY ROSTER CHANGES TO THE KSG OFFICE AFTER THE JULY 6 DATE.** Hold any roster changes after July 6 until arrival at the Finals site.
13. It is **STRONGLY** recommended that the Selection Panel meet at the trial site immediately after the conclusion of the final trial, make their roster selections, and announce them before the athletes leave the venue. Parent feedback has been overwhelming to say that the worst time for the athletes during the entire tryout-trial-selection process is the waiting period between the end of the trial and notification of whether they made the team. This is even true for the athletes that make the team. Let us not put the athletes through the agony of this waiting period.
14. If the roster announcement is not made at the trial venue, then phone, email or postal mail contact **MUST** be done for each athlete that participated at the trial. Communication should be made as quickly as possible. **EVERY ATHLETE WILL BE CONTACTED!**
15. **Sixteen players will be selected for each roster, and ONLY 16 players will go to the Finals. Two of the sixteen players must be goalies, if at least two “qualified” goalies tried out. The Selection Panel will determine “qualified” goalies. If less than two “qualified” goalies try out then a “qualified” goalie(s) from a region(s) with excess “qualified” goalies may supply one or two “qualified” goalies. THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS “ALTERNATES”.** The coach will know the next player or two from the evaluations, but he/she should keep this to themselves. If one of the first 16 players drops out, then the coach is ready with a replacement.
NOTE: If only one goalie is selected the roster size is 15.
16. A full 16 players must be selected for the roster if at least 16 players tried out. The KSG has advertised a roster of 16 players for field hockey. The athletes have paid their money and tried out with the understanding 16 players will be on the roster. Selecting less than 16 players is unfair to the athletes.
17. If less than 14 field players or 2 goalies tryout in a division contact the Competition Director for the protocol in completing the roster.
18. The normal KSG policy regarding selection of players to a FH roster when 14 field players and 2 goalies or less attend the tryouts/trial in a region for one division of play is that all attendees must be taken on the roster before going outside the tryouts to fill the roster.

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Recently, in a team sport there was an instance where a player who was properly registered, attended a tryout, but whose skill level was so far below the other athletes trying out that putting this person on the field would create a safety factor during the competition and/or a travesty in the quality of competition. If the Selection Panel (not just one person or just the coaching staff) determines this to be the case for a player, then after notifying the Competition Director of the situation, the RSC may inform the player and her parents of the SP decision not to place her on a roster. REMEMBER, this will only occur when there are 14 field players and 2 goalies or less trying out in a division in one region.

19. In the mailing with the blank Team Roster Form each coach will receive several copies of a letter from the Competition Director to hand to each athlete selected for the roster. It congratulates the player and provides basic info about the Finals. Also, the letter concerning the Finals Fee will accompany the Congratulations Letter and be handed to the athlete.
20. **The KSG does not have a “must play” rule, except for goalies, and field hockey has not implemented one. Each coach should ensure that every player and their parents are fully aware of this at or before the time of selection. Although there is not a “must play” rule every effort should be made to involve each athlete on the roster. There should be several opportunities for position players to enter the game. Bringing a player to the Finals and then having her sit on the bench for four/five games is unacceptable. An attempt should be made to equalize as much as possible the time in goal for each goalie; but, barring injury or other unpreventable cause each goalie will get a minimum of playing time equal to one complete game.**
21. Two (2) coaches are authorized and recognized for each field hockey team. PLEASE DO NOT EMBARRASS YOURSELF OR THE COMPETITION DIRECTOR BY LISTING ADDITIONAL COACHES ON THE ROSTER FORM. The KSG policy authorizes a maximum of 16 players on a field hockey team. The general policy authorizes one coach for rosters with up to 9 players; two coaches for rosters with 10 to 19 players; and three coaches for rosters of 20 or more players.
22. When listing players on the roster sheet the “Shirt #” column is for the shirt number the player will wear at the Finals. The lower numbers will be the smaller sized shirts: Youth 1-16 small, Junior and Scholastic 1-8 small and 9-16 medium. List the shirt number the player will wear at the Finals in this column. Letting players wear numbers other than what is listed in the program is very confusing to the college coaches as well as the fans. If the players are listed on the Team Roster Form without a number shown when the roster is submitted, then the players will be assigned shirt numbers 1-16 in order from top to bottom as listed on the form. If a XXL shirt is needed the KSG office must be informed by June 15.
23. The Team Roster Form should be filled out with complete data for each player and each coach. The forms are due into the KSG office within one week after the trial (last tryout if no trial is used).
24. Roster changes may be made up to the conclusion of the pre-competition meeting at the Finals site; BUT, any changes not making the July 6 deadline must be made at the Finals

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site, which may require the athlete to go to the Problem Desk. The latest Team Roster Forms will be available at the pre-competition meeting for each coach to verify.

NOTE: The tryouts-invitation-final trial-selection process as described above is the recommended KSG procedure for team sports using the individual entry. In field hockey some regions are using one or two tryouts, with no final trial. Some regions use only a final trial. Roster selection and player notification become more complicated using this procedure. Still, communication to every tryout athlete on whether they “did” or “did not” make the roster is imperative.

25. No refund of the Finals Fee will be made when a roster change is made. If the athlete is not replaced she forfeits the fee. If the athlete is replaced the two athletes involved must work out the exchange on their own.

Addition 2009 Information

2009 Additional Teams:

Youth

CAP
POC

Junior

NIT
DVL

Scholastic

BMT
LVL

2009 Pool Play Alignment:

Youth Division

Keystone

CAP
MET
NIT
LVL
POC 2

Commonwealth

ALG
BMT
DVL
POC
CAP 2

Junior Division

Keystone

CAP
MET
NIT
LVL
DVL 2

Commonwealth

ALG
BMT
DVL
POC
NIT 2

Scholastic Division

Keystone

CAP
MET
NIT
LVL
BMT 2

Commonwealth

ALG
BMT
DVL
POC
LVL 2

2009 Schedule of Play:

Scholastic—Thursday—Saturday; July 23-25, 2009

Junior—Friday—Sunday; July 24-26, 2009

Youth—Friday—Sunday; July 24-26, 2009