



## KNIGHTS DEFENSE OVERALL CUE CARD - U13/U15/U18

		5 - Stands out skills above the group	4 - Above Average: Fits in Group to slightly above group	3 - Average: fits in group	2- Below Average: Skill is below group	1 Needs improvement - struggled to keep up with group
Speed	Skating	Exceptional at all skating skills. 1. Does not get knocked off the puck. 2. Powerful acceleration out of turns and has great agility. 3. Explosive skater, great knee bend, skate through checks, first to pucks. Change of speed, great starts and purposeful skating, tenacious.	Strong at most skating skills. 1. Accelerates out of turns and has good agility. 2. Strong skater, good base allows him to win most loose puck races. 3. Change of pace is evident	Average at most skating skills. 1. Turns lack some power, starting to get wide. 2. Occasionally gets through checks and sometimes wins puck races but not tenacious. 3. Skates mostly with one gear but fairly steady.	Base of support is narrow and upright posture. Rarely shows acceleration. Lags behind the play. Usually 3rd forward into offense and last to come back. Gets separated from the puck easily. Cannot skate with sound balance, agility or speed.	Skating need significant work. 1. Base of support is narrow with an upright posture. 2. Little to no acceleration, falls behind in drills. 3. Clearly shows a lack of balance, agility and speed.
Puck Possession skills	Puck Skills	Dominant at all three skills. 1. Puck Control: dominant puck protection, excellent speed with the puck and hands away from body. 2. Passing: passes on the tape, show deception, unselfishness, does not make blind passes and receives consistently. 3. Scoring: has a variety of shots, very accurate, quick release and scoring ability is high. Can change angles with pull or push (subtle drags)	Strong at 2 or more skills and frequently can perform at high speed	Average at all skills. Player is having difficulties puckhandling at high speed. Struggles with the puck having to look down sometimes, which can cause errant passes. Some deficiencies in strength with effects puck protection and shot. Release is slow, lacks power. Trouble receiving and giving good passes. Rarely hits the net with shot. Head Down.	Below average ability with all skills. Has difficulty handling the puck - limited range in puck control. Cannot make accurate or hard passes and has not shown scoring ability or a variety of shots.	extremely below average ability with all skills. Has difficulty handling the puck - limited range in puck control. Cannot make accurate or hard passes and has not shown scoring ability or a variety of shots.
Competitive Spirit	Checking	Player consistently uses controlled skating to accomplish one or more of the following: 1. Angling opponents to the outside by saving ice, timing is great. 2. Establishing body position on puck carrier and uses active stick to block shots, passes or lane to net. 3. Using stick or body to separate opponents from the puck and keep position. 4. While taking a check also gives and initiates, mindful of rolling and slipping off checks to effectively win battles on the puck.	Player frequently uses: 1. Concepts of angling, saving ice, quick feet and an active stick to pursue the puck or attacker. 2. Once body position is established player initiates body contact and stickchecks to separate player from the puck but timing is sometime off causing the player to be slightly out of position. 3. Involved in physical play, initiates and can receive.	Player engages in play but without quick feet or a quick stick. Body contact is happening out of chance most of the time because of straight line skating. Sometime avoids contact by arriving too early or late causing the player to look like he is almost getting out of there.	Because player lacks fundamental skating skills he is not an effective checker and makes very little attempt to get engaged in the play to cause a turnover.	Player is critically lacking fundamental skating skills Player is not an effective checker and makes very little attempt to get engaged in the play to cause a turnover.
Competitive Spirit	Compete (Puck Pursuit and Battles)	Work Ethic: Constant Desire to excel in all situations, constant work ethic in practice and games, never gives up, fire in their eyes. Willingness to compete. Aggressive - hard nosed by disciplined. Strong puck pursuit skills. Plays hard. Wins the 1 on 1 battles.	Work Ethic: Constant Desire to excel in all situations, constant work ethic in practice and games, never gives up, fire in their eyes. Willingness to compete. Aggressive - hard nosed by disciplined. Strong puck pursuit skills. Plays hard. Wins the 1 on 1 battles.	Cannot maintain work ethic (in shifts, periods, games - especially early and late, poor line changes. Negative verbal exchanges with opponents, teammates and officials. Soft	Cannot maintain work ethic (in shifts, periods, games - especially early and late, poor line changes. Negative verbal exchanges with opponents, teammates and officials. Soft	Cannot maintain work ethic (in shifts, periods, games - especially early and late, poor line changes. Negative verbal exchanges with opponents, teammates and officials. Soft
Functional Intelligence	Offensive abilities	Exceptional: 1. Jumps up into the play and becomes an option, can carry the puck into the zone with control. 2. Exceptional first pass effectiveness on breakouts, tape to tape puck movement and playmaking with limited turnovers; also demonstrates effective evasive moves and offers excellent D to D support. 3. Good decisions on when to pinch and returns quickly to defensive position.	Player frequently finds open space to receive pass. Strong ability to beat guys 1 on 1. Lacks some deception and change of speed but is still effective overall. Things are happening offensively when this player is on the ice.	Player believes they are open but doesn't do the extra work to get there. Occasionally gets open to receive a pass. Sometimes beats 1 on 1. Lack creativity (same move). Occasionally goes to the net but most times holds up. Limited offensive chances.	Player does not break to find open ice. When player has puck rarely shows the ability to beat a player 1 on 1. Not going to the net, offensive chances are rare	Player does not break to find open ice. When player has puck rarely shows the ability to beat a player 1 on 1. Not going to the net, offensive chances are rare
Functional Intelligence	Defensive Abilities	Dominant: 1. Net front coverage and net side presence, strength and balance; seals the front of the net, forces and holds pins in the corner quickly returning to the hub; uses body position or stick to separate the attacker with the puck. 2. Tight gap control, shoulders square with one hand on the stick. 3. Reads rush using checking and angling skills, handles outside speed effectively, great lateral movement and turns both ways effectively.	Player frequently: 1. Plays strong net front coverage. Uses body and stick to separate the attacker from the puck. 2. Gap is still there just not tight. Mostly one hand on the stick and square shoulders. 3. Makes strong reads and can keep most players with speed to the outside with good angling and body positioning.	Player occasionally 1. some difficulty in D zone coverage. Sometimes late in getting the next contact or identifying who is the scoring threat. Late returning after a hit. 2. Gap is safe usually one full zone, plays with two hands on the stick and lunges, body opens on contact. 3. Overplays on 1 on 1's standing too close to the boards in most cases and in some cases just staying in the middle	Player shows little interest in the pursuit of the puck or oppositional player with puck. No use of body position. Not understanding defensive zone coverage. Very stationary. Late in getting to most areas.	Player shows little interest in the pursuit of the puck or oppositional player with puck. No use of body position. Not understanding defensive zone coverage. Very stationary. Late in getting to most areas.
Functional Intelligence	Overall Sense	Outstanding read and react skills. 1. Right play at the right time, great judgement and discipline, good vision (sees the ice well). 2. Player understands positional play; understanding systems and concepts. 3. Player away from puck, supports the puck on both the offensive and defensive side of the puck. 4. Decisive actions: able to quickly to position and adjust to developing or transitional play.	Player frequently uses 1. reading and reacting skills, good anticipation. 2. Understanding of game is strong and plays position. 3. Supports the puck but gets too far ahead sometimes. 4. Frequently in the right position as play transitions.	Player lacking some 1. focus, sometimes engaged in play. 2. shows uncertainty about position, lacks some understanding, not too involved defensively. 3. Player occasionally supports away from the puck but limited in anticipation so finds themselves arriving late or almost getting there.	Poor 1. read and react abilities - slow or incorrect decisions, repeat mistakes. 2. Player plays mostly on the perimeter never really getting engaged in the play offensively or defensively.	Poor 1. read and react abilities - slow or incorrect decisions, repeat mistakes. 2. Player plays mostly on the perimeter never really getting engaged in the play offensively or defensively.