

## Definition of a Bubble B1 Pee wee Player

There are differing definitions of what a Bubble B1 Pee wee player is depending on who you ask. Often this stems from the reference point being what team designation the athlete last played on was. Unfortunately there is no constant using that as the basis for comparison, as each municipality is free to play at the level they designate with no MN Hockey oversight as to uniform skill requirements. Drastically different numbers of athletes & teams from one club to the next alters what team players end up on. Parent perception & a coach's attachment to his club can create emotional obstacles as well. **Example:** An Edina coach is asked what level a player from Redwing is after seeing him and he says "solid B2 pee wee". That player's parent and coach may be offended by that comment if the player is on the Redwing Pee wee "A" team. It's ESP Hockey's job to help you find players who are at a target skill level, not players that are on certain teams. It's difficult to compare teams without a reference point. We have built a formula that guides you through it. Using the chart below you can find the right players when building a team from a single community or adding a few players from a nearby club to complete a team. A cross section of hockey associations are listed and analyzed to guide you in finding the right players. Some may have C teams in lieu of B2 but levels of skill should match up % wise based on total numbers. The terms we used to describe teams refers primarily to the size of the clubs not the level of commitment to their athletes.

### Elite Tier Associations

#### Edina & Wayzata: *7-10 pee wee teams*

Because these two clubs have solid reputations with development, and multiple teams many of the B1 players from those two associations are possibly above the level we wish to assemble teams at. However, with 30% of their players on a B1 or above squad a couple first year 3<sup>rd</sup> line B1's might fit. First & Second line B2 players and below are the more likely candidate's skill wise and potentially are a good match with the other players and teams within our Bubble B1 league.

### Top Tier

Eden Prairie, Woodbury, Eagan, Osseo-Maple Grove, Lakeville, White Bear Lake, Stillwater, Rochester, Minnetonka, Blaine: **Clubs that average 5-8 pee wee teams with 3-5 traveling.** These clubs typically have 2 B1 Pee wee teams & either one or two B2 teams. The Bubble here consists of 2-5 of the third line players combined from the two B1 teams and 4-8 of the top dozen B2 players as they are normally interchangeable with the players that squeezed into the last few B1 spots.

### High Mid Tier

Prior Lake-Savage, Chaska-Chanhassen, Andover, Centennial, Eastview, Cottage Grove, Hastings, St. Cloud: **Generally 4-6 pee wee teams with 3 or 4 traveling.** These clubs don't have the numbers of the Elite & Top Tier Clubs but they also don't field as many teams thereby having solid players at different points in their rosters. Generally you would look at the bottom 1 or 3 kids on a single B1 team and the top 6-10 kids in the B2 group.

### Mid Tier

Burnsville, Jefferson, Tartan, Forest Lake, Sibley, Shakopee, Moundsview, Apple Valley, Champlin, Anoka, Coon Rapids, Farmington, Mpls. Storm, Orono, Mahtomedi: **Generally 4 or possibly "5 smaller" pee wee teams with 3 traveling.** As with High Mid Tier, these clubs don't have multiple teams at any one level so their B1 competitiveness holds up well. Again features players at unique points in the team rosters which would generally be the bottom 4-8 kids on their B1 team and the top 1-9 B2 pee wee players in their club.

### Mid Low Tier

Mound, Spring Lake Park, Armstrong, Kennedy-Richfield, Hopkins, North Metro, Chisago, Northfield, Owatonna, Waconia, Hudson, Hutchinson, Simley, N. St. Paul, Highland: **Generally 3 – possibly "4 smaller" pee wee teams total.** B1 Pee wees may be the first squad they field in this group along with three total teams. The last 3-8 players on that B1 team along with the first 1-8 of the second team if applicable would be a starting point but a conversation with our staff at ESP may be in order. You may need to fill in kids using a neighboring club if your players drop off quickly skill wise with team two. If there is an "A" team the club may be a little stronger where "maybe" only the last player or two are eligible along with all 3 lines of the next team and a few from the 3<sup>rd</sup> team if there are four teams total.

### Lower Tier

Johnson-Como, Redwing, River Falls, New Richmond, Baldwin, North Branch: Use a 30% calculation on total pee wees.

Coaches from teams not listed should be able to fit themselves into the formula by comparing teams listed to their team by club size, win / loss records, & the outcomes of games with common opponents & or head to head. Another way to find a solid starting point, use a 30% calculation of your "exact level size" (total player numbers) to find your top players & then work back from there 15-20 kids to find the full range. A balanced mix within that # grouping will make you competitive.

**Low Tier:** 24 to 44 Use the 30% calculation of exact number of level pee wees to find starting point. **Low Mid Tier:** 45-75 Pee wees targets the 20<sup>th</sup> through 38<sup>th</sup> most skilled kids or 30% starting point. **Mid Tier:** 76-99 Pee wees targets the 26<sup>th</sup> through 44<sup>th</sup> most skilled. **High Mid Tier:** 100-119 Pee wees targets the 32<sup>nd</sup> through 50<sup>th</sup> most skilled. **Top Tier:** 120 - 139 total Pee wees targets the 39<sup>th</sup> through 67<sup>th</sup> most skilled. **Elite Tier:** 140-160+ Pee wees targets the 50<sup>th</sup> -75<sup>th</sup> Players.