

SEASONAL STRUCTURE

DIVISION	INITIATION Effective 2017-18	MINOR NOVICE Effective 2018-19	NOVICE Effective 2019-20	MINOR ATOM Current	
Age	5 & 6 years old	7 years old	8 years old	9 years old	
Category	HL; LL	HL; LL; Select	HL; LL; Rep	Recreational: HL; LL; RS; MD;	Competitive: Rep
Coach Qualification	NCCP Coach 1 – Intro to Coach	NCCP Coach 1 – Intro to Coach	NCCP Coach 1 – Intro to Coach	NCCP Coach 2 – Coach Level	
Practice Format	Station-based Hockey Canada Initiation Program curriculum	Station-based Hockey Canada Initiation Program curriculum	Station-based Hockey Canada Novice curriculum	Hockey Canada Atom Curriculum	
Evaluation/Selection	After Labour Day 2 weeks	After OHF Championships 2 weeks	After OHF Championships 2 weeks	2 Weeks	Per OHF Regulations
Development Season	6 weeks	6 weeks	6 weeks	6 Weeks	
Regular Season	20 weeks	20 weeks	12 weeks	22 Weeks	
Transition Season	N/A	N/A	8 weeks	N/A	
Jamborees/ Tournaments	Jamboree After Dec. 1 st	Jamboree After Dec. 1 st	Jamborees (before Jan. 15 th) Tournaments (after Jan. 15 th)	Tournament	

GAME STRUCTURE

DIVISION	INITIATION Effective 2017-18	MINOR NOVICE Effective 2018-19	NOVICE Effective 2019-20	MINOR ATOM Current
Age	5 & 6 years old	7 years old	8 years old	9 years old
Team Format	Two Team model 18 Players	Two Team model 18 Players	Two Team model 18 Players	Regulation
Coaches On-Ice	Yes	Optional	Optional	No
Goaltenders	Not required/ Rotational	Rotational	Rotational	Rotational/Full-Time
Game Format	Cross-Ice 4v4	Half-Ice 4v4	Half-Ice - 4v4	Full-Ice 5v5
			Transition Season: Full-Ice - 5v5	
Boards / Dividers	Optimal: Foam rink dividers or board system	Optimal: Foam rink dividers or board system	Optimal: Foam rink dividers or board system	N/A
Puck	Blue (4 oz.)	Blue (4 oz.)	Black (6 oz.)	Black (6 oz.)
Nets	Small or Regulation	Small or Regulation	Small or Regulation	Regulation
			Transition Season: Regulation	

DIVISION	INITIATION Effective 2017-18	MINOR NOVICE Effective 2018-19	NOVICE Effective 2019-20	MINOR ATOM Current
Shift Length	Set Time/Buzzer	Set Time/Buzzer	Set Time/Buzzer	Regulation
			Transition Season: Regulation	
Officials	N/A	1 or 2 Officials	1 or 2 Officials	2 Officials
			Transition Season: 2 Officials	
Face offs	Start Game/2 nd Half	Start Game/2 nd Half	Start game/2 nd Half	Regulation
			Transition Season: Regulation	
Offside/Icing	No	No	No	Regulation
			Transition Season: Regulation	
Penalties	No	Yes - Modified	Yes - Modified	Regulation
			Transition Season: Regulation	
Score	No	No	No	Yes
			Transition Season: Regulation	
Standings	No	No	No	Yes
			Transition Season: Regulation	

PLAYING IN A HIGHER DIVISION & AFFILIATION

AGE BY DEC. 31	DIVISION	CATEGORY	PLAY IN A HIGHER DIVISION?	MAY AFFILIATE?
4 & Under	Pre-school 2018-19	HL	NO	NO
5 & 6	Initiation 2018-19	HL; LL	If deemed able by ability using parameters identified by the Association or where registration numbers require*	NO
7	Minor Novice 2018-19	HL; LL; Select	If deemed able by ability using parameters identified by the Association or where registration numbers require*	NO
8	Novice 2018-19	HL; LL; MD; Rep	If deemed able by ability using parameters identified by the Association or where registration numbers require*	YES
8	Novice Effective 2019-20	HL; LL; Rep	If deemed able by ability using parameters identified by the Association or where registration numbers require*	YES **

* Centres must establish criteria that players would be required to meet in order to play on a higher division team.

** Yes – to Minor Atom/Atom only during the Transition Season - once the Novice program has transitioned to Full-Ice.