

New Westminster Minor Hockey Association

**Hockey 1-2 (Tyke) and
Hockey 3-4 (Novice) Divisions**

Parent Information Handbook

Visit our website: www.nwmha.ca

Welcome to New Westminster Minor Hockey!

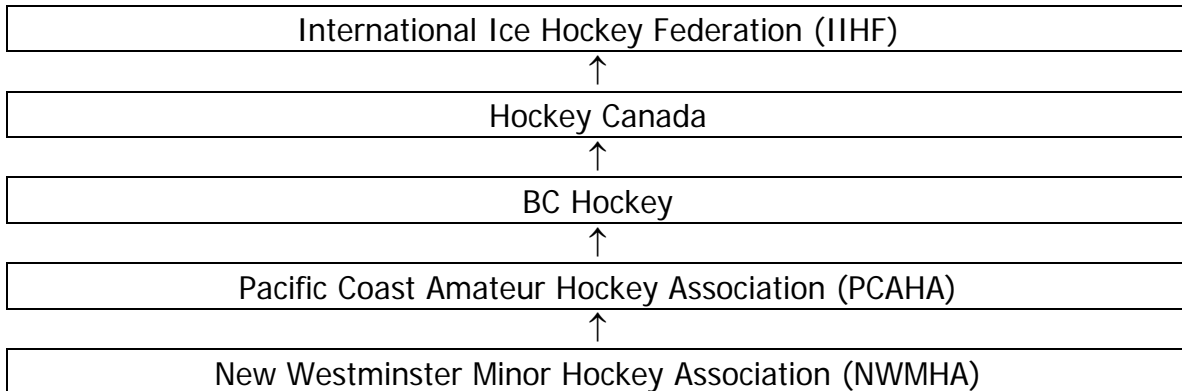
We are hoping that everyone is ready for a fun time learning to play hockey and for making new friends.

The purpose of this information booklet is to provide you with some basic information about what your family can expect over the season (September to March), and what the Association and your Division will expect of you.

Your team Coach/Manager will schedule a parent meeting at the beginning of the season and at that time you will be provided with further information on the program and you will be given an opportunity to ask questions.

As you review this booklet, remember that you are a member of the Association and every member is a volunteer. Hockey is a team sport and the Association, the Division and the individual groups/teams function best with everyone working together. We encourage and require the contribution and participation of all our members. If you are not sure how to help out, please do not hesitate to ask 😊

Amateur Hockey Structure



Registration and Additional Costs

Your registration fee covers the cost to the Association for your child's ice time, insurance, and referee costs. Once Hockey 1-4 team formation is complete **you can expect an additional cost**, depending on the expenses your team chooses to incur (at this level it may work out to be about \$50 per child). Some teams generate additional funds through fundraising events (such as 50/50 draws). Be sure to attend the parent meeting when your team's budget is discussed and developed.

Team First

The principles of Team First are to promote fair play and respect for all participants within the Association. The expectation is for team officials, parents and players to sign a pledge before their child participates in hockey. This pledge confirms members' commitment to observe the principles of Fair Play as set by the Canadian Hockey Association and supported by the New Westminster Minor Hockey Association.

The Initiation Program

The focus of the Initiation Program (Hockey 1-4) is on skill development. During the first number of weeks of the season, players will be put into groups to facilitate a series of practices. By the beginning of November, each player in Hockey 2-4 will be evaluated and assigned to a team. The purpose of this evaluation process is to balance the teams within each Division and, ultimately, to ensure that our teams have fun when they play against teams within the PCAHA.

Player Equipment Required

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> athletic support (jock/jill) | <input type="checkbox"/> red hockey socks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> shin pads | <input type="checkbox"/> elbow pads |
| <input type="checkbox"/> shoulder pads | <input type="checkbox"/> gloves |
| <input type="checkbox"/> practice jersey | <input type="checkbox"/> knee length hockey pants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> neck guard | <input type="checkbox"/> helmet (full cage/full visor) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tape (for stick) | <input type="checkbox"/> skates |
| <input type="checkbox"/> garter belt (sometimes it is built into the athletic support) | <input type="checkbox"/> stick |

Player Accessories – Highly Recommended

- mouth guard
- long-sleeved under shirt and full length underwear

Name bars can also be purchased (by the team or by individuals). Please ensure that these are 'hand-sewn' (not 'machine-sewn') to the jerseys. They must be displayed either above or below the "stop sign" patch.

It is important for all players to obtain appropriate and well-fitting equipment. Coaches and experienced parent volunteers can assist you if you are unsure about your child's equipment requirements.

Team Equipment Provided by the Association

We are very fortunate in that our Association covers the cost of the following equipment that is required by the team:

- ✓ set of team jerseys
- ✓ team pucks
- ✓ First Aid kit for Safety Person
- ✓ stop sign patches
- ✓ goalie equipment

All the above items are to be returned to the Association at the end of the season.

Hockey 1

The objective of the Hockey 1 program ("Introduction to Hockey") is to provide first-time registrants (aged 9 and under) instruction in the basic skills of the game of hockey in a positive, non-competitive atmosphere, utilizing the Hockey Canada "Introduction to Coaching Program" lesson plans. *There will be no formal structured hockey games for Hockey 1.* By using the progressive lesson format, players will be introduced to hockey in a fun, positive and safe environment.

Players involved with the Hockey 1 program are permitted to participate in one jamboree over the course of a season (participation in the Tim Horton's sponsored TimBits Jamboree or the PCAHA year-end windup shall not count in the jamboree restriction for Hockey 1).

Although the Hockey 1 group is not organized into structured teams, the concept of active participation of the group is necessary. The Hockey 1 group will need volunteers such as Manager, Coaches, and Assistant Coaches to assist with the on and off ice operations of the group (see Roles and Responsibilities).

Hockey 2 – 4

Team Formation

The objective of the Hockey 2 to 4 program is to provide an introduction to team play for hockey players under the age of 9 in a non-competitive, recreational structure. The emphasis in the program is to promote skill development and sportsmanship and the continued utilization of the Canadian Hockey Association Initiation Program. Hockey 2 may be referred to as "Tyke", and Hockey 3 and 4 referred to as "Novice".

Following the initial weeks of skill development, teams will be formed in appropriate skill levels using the criteria set out in the Initiation Program. The numbers of teams and number of players per team will be decided once the teams are skill-balanced in accordance with the PCAHA rules.

Generally, two ice times are allocated to each team. One ice time is used for practice and the second ice time is used for games. The League Manager will assign "league"* games, and the team Manager will schedule all remaining "exhibition"** games. Some of these games will be home games, and others will be away games. During games, all players are entitled to equal ice time.

A team meeting will be held by the Coach and/or team Manager at the beginning of the season to define roles and responsibilities, team goals, and to discuss the team budget.

Hockey 1-4 Summary (for guideline purposes)

	Hockey 1	Hockey 2	Hockey 3	Hockey 4
League Games	No formal games. Jamborees are permitted at the end of the year.	6 assigned "league" games	13 assigned "league" games starting after the Remembrance Day weekend	13 assigned "league" games starting after the Remembrance Day weekend
Inter-Association Games	No formal games.	Commence no sooner than November 1 st	Commence no sooner than October 15 th	Commence no sooner than October 15 th
Maximum Number of Games	No formal games.	30 total games, including exhibition games and a maximum of 2 tournaments	35 total games	40 total games
Posting Scores	N/A	No	No	Yes; no more than a 5 goal spread posted

* League Games: are those games schedule by the PCAHA

** Exhibition Games: are non-league games scheduled by your Coach/Manager

Team Budget

Each team/group will develop a budget for the expected costs that a team will incur over the season. For example, costs may include: tournament fees (each cost between \$450-\$600/team), player/coaches gifts and a season-end wind up. This amount will be discussed by the team Coach and/or Manager and is dependent upon the number of tournaments in which the team wishes to participate and the type of wind-up the team wishes to organize.

Team Roles and Responsibilities

The Team First concept is based on teamwork, respect and active participation.

One family member for each player is expected to assist in the operations of the team. This may include volunteer positions such as Coach, Manager, Safety Person, Snack Parent, home game 50/50 sales, or home game Game Sheet/Clock duties. Your team Coach/Manager may wish to establish a rotation schedule for some of these duties. **All volunteer team officials (Coaches/Assistant Coaches, Managers, Safety Person) are required to take the Speak Out Seminar.** Participants will have the Seminar cost reimbursed by the Association. Visit the PCAHA website for Seminar dates and locations at www.pcaha.bc.ca/clinics/

As well, the NWMHA may have an opportunity to participate in fundraising at a Vancouver Giants game during the 2008/2009 season and parent volunteers will also be required for program sales and 50/50 ticket sales for this fundraising event.

Manager

- Establish budget and manage team monies, arrange exhibition games, ensure game schedules are developed and distributed, ensure efficient operation of games and coordinate volunteers for game duties, complete game sheets and mail to League, organize entry into tournaments and assist the Coach with his/her responsibilities as needed, manage communications for the team, manage and track all paperwork requirements for the team. As well the Manager is responsible for organizing any fundraising activities and a year-end wind up party (the team Manager may wish to delegate the fundraising and party responsibilities to a volunteer parent). The team Manager is required to attend the PCAHA Presidents' League Managers' Meeting in November.

Assistant Coach/On-ice Assistants

- Assist the Coach in completing his or her duties. In addition to the Speak Out Seminar, Assistants may wish to take the Introduction to Coaching

Program. Participants will have the Program cost reimbursed by the Association. Visit the PCAHA website for dates and locations at www.pcaha.bc.ca/clinics/.

Safety Person

- Provide on ice assistance, examine the arena and player equipment for safety, develop and disseminate an emergency plan for an injured player, assist injured players, be available to be on the bench during games. The Safety Person is also responsible for bringing the First Aid kit (provided by the Association's Equipment Manager via your Division Manager) to all games and practices, and for making an Injury Report available to the attending physician in the event a player must attend Emergency. In addition to the Speak Out Seminar, the Safety Person is required to take the Hockey Canada Safety Program (HCSP) by no later than December 1st of the current season. Participants will have the Program cost reimbursed by the Association. Visit the PCAHA website for dates and locations at www.pcaha.bc.ca/clinics/.

Dressing Room Etiquette

- ⇒ Please ensure to arrive at the rink for practice and games at least ½ hour prior to the scheduled time to have your child dressed and ready to go on the ice 5-10 minutes prior to ice start time.
- ⇒ Please ensure that you dress your child in the dressing room and not in the general lobby.
- ⇒ There are no cameras or other picture taking devices allowed in the dressing rooms.
- ⇒ The dressing room is the place where valuable information is communicated and team bonding is formed. Coaches may request that parents leave the dressing room 5 minutes prior to the start of the game in order to speak with the players.
- ⇒ Always notify the Coach or Manager in a timely manner when your child will not be able to attend a game or practice.

Arena Maps

Access the following site to find out where arenas are located:
www.arenamaps.com

Team Pictures

Team pictures are usually scheduled for early November (exact time to be announced). Please have your son/daughter fully dressed (without the helmet) for picture day. Arrive at Queens Park Arena 15 minutes prior to your scheduled picture time with the completed Order Form (to be provided by the team

Coach/Manager). A team photo together with a single picture of your son/daughter is provided free of charge. Additional photos may be purchased. In either case, please complete and submit the Order Form on picture day.

Tim Hortons TimBits Jamboree

This optional Jamboree is usually held in January and is open to Hockey 1 and 2 players. It is a one-day event where the players have an opportunity to be coached by members of the Vancouver Giants (dependent upon their availability). Tim Hortons provides donuts, beverages and a gift for each player. It is up to the team Coach or Manager to register the team for this event.

PCAHA Year-end Wind Up

Each year the PCAHA organizes a wind up for all Associations within the PCAHA. This wind up is scheduled for the end of the season (in March or April) and is a mandatory game for all players. Your team Coach/Manager will advise you of the exact date once it has been scheduled.

Dates to Remember

September	Initiation Program begins
End of October	Hockey 2-4 team formation complete
Early November	Team pictures (exact times TBA)
January	Tim Hortons Timbits Jamboree (H1 and H2)
March/April	PCAHA year-end Wind Up
March 31	Earlybird registration deadline for following season

Contact Information

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your team Coach or Manager. If you require additional information please feel free to contact your Division Manager.

Hockey 1-2 Division Manager:

Hockey1_2dm@nwmha.ca

Hockey 3-4 Division Manager:

Hockey3_4dm@nwmha.ca

The complete Executive Contact List is available on the NWMHA website at www.nwmha.ca/contacts.

For more information regarding NWMHA please access our Website:
www.nwmha.ca