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To: Member Associations

From: Al Maclsaac
Chair Hockey PEI Minor Council

Date: August 30, 2016

Re: 2016-17 Season Novice Restructuring

This memo serves as a reminder regarding the restructuring of Novice hockey for the 2016-2017 season. This new direction is about player development for Novice aged kids. The Development Council has worked hard on this concept for some time and this was endorsed and passed by minor council to adopt for the coming season.

The restructuring of Novice hockey is being led by Hockey Canada and supported by Hockey PEI. All branches across the country are taking steps towards Novice restructuring.

This concept was presented at the Minor Council AGM and confirmed at that time that this would be going forward. It was circulated to all in attendance at the AGM and further sent electronically in July.

Attached to this memo you will find a copy of that document outlining the new policy for Novice hockey this season. We have updated the document by adjusting the table to flow more easily. We will also dedicate some time to further discuss this program at the Fall Workshop.

For additional information, please contact the Hockey PEI office at 902-368-4334

Yours in hockey,

Al Maclsaac
Chair Hockey PEI Minor Council

cc: Minor Hockey Council





Novice Hockey 2016-17 Season



The Novice age group is a very important stage of player development. Novice hockey should focus on the skill development of all players with a heavy emphasis on fun. Games and Tournaments should feature equal ice time for all participants.

KEY DATES

September 15th (Novice Development Sessions)

- MHA's and Zones may begin Novice Development Sessions.
- MHA's can determine groupings (ie. age etc).
- Half or cross ice games only - built into development sessions.

October 29 – November 13th

- MHA's and Zones may conduct Novice AA tryouts.

Novice	Tryout/Team Selection Dates	Regular Season Dates	Regular Season	Tournaments
<i>Novice AA</i>	<i>Oct 29 to Nov 13 Practices 2 exhibition games</i>	<i>Nov 25 - Mar 12</i>	<i>15 weeks Min 30 practices 20 full ice games</i>	<i>Max 4 tournaments after Nov 13</i>
<i>Novice A</i>	<i>Oct 29 - Dec 1 Practices 1 exhibition game 1 tournament</i>	<i>Dec 2 - Mar 12</i>	<i>14 weeks Min 14 practices 18 full ice games</i>	<i>Max 3 tournaments after Dec 2</i>

Considerations:

- All Novice players will practice and play modified games (cross ice/half ice) together during the development season.
- Development Season ice times to be led by MHA's assigned Novice A & AA coaching staffs.
- Cross Ice / Half Ice games during development season must take up, at most, 20 minutes per 1 hour session.
- Rotate all skaters through all positions during development season – no early specialization
- Encourage all players to take a turn playing goalie during development season
- Multiple station work, development based practices throughout entire length of season
- Shared ice when possible for all practice times throughout the entire season
- Novice AA & A regular season schedules will be created by designated Hockey PEI coordinator
- Novice AA league will remain an island wide league
- Novice A leagues will be determined by geographic regions

Pilot Project:

- For the 2016-17 season, all minor penalties will be 1 minute in length.
- This will be in effect for both Novice A and Novice AA