



TRI-COUNTY
minor hockey league



U8 & U9 PROGRAMMING

Tri-County Minor Hockey League
2023/2024 Seasonal Structure MD

Revised Oct 26 2023



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U8/U9 Program Overview

TCMHL will provide a tiered MD league for associations for U8 & U9. The MD league is intended to operate in partnership with your associations commitment to opportunity-based programming. Associations may partner the MD league program with internal commitments to their additional development program.

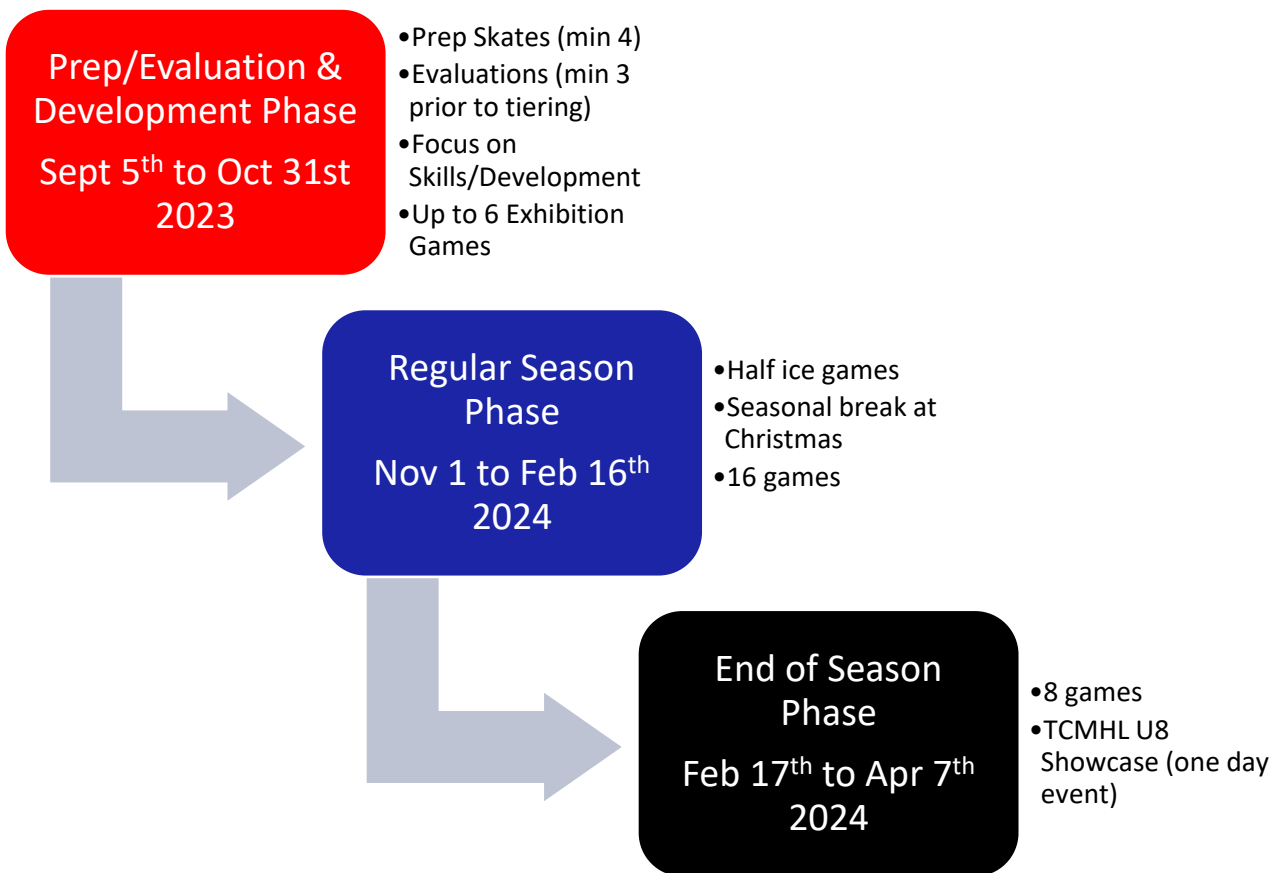
- MD League will be divided into “pods” based on the following priorities:
 - Geographic areas
 - Tiering options/association entries
 - Facility and partnering between associations
- ****Please note some exceptions may be required due to association/league needs***
- Rules for game play will be communicated annually and sent to associations by your OMHA Regional Director
- Hockey Canada Pathways and OHF/OMHA communicated Seasonal Structures and Objectives are the foundation for the TCMHL programming model.
- Program models will be reviewed annually and in consultation with associations



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U8 MD Season Summary- Half Ice All Season



- Notes:**
- Tiering of players grouped by like skill (i.e. MD 1, MD 2) & placed in “Pods” for game play (2-3 Pods pending association submissions)
 - On-going monitoring of Pods
 - No Scores are kept
 - No Standing are kept
 - 3 Jamborees
 - Seasonal Break –Dec 24th 2023 to Jan 1,2024 (*March Break TBC*)
 - Year End TCMHL Showcase Weekend: **April 6th or 7th TBC By Nov 30th 2023**
 - Interested hosts to email *Tri-County President and OMHA Regional Director by November 7th 2023*
 - Costing per team and event overview to be provided as part of host interest submission
 - Each team to play min 2 games (one day event)
 - Pizza Lunch and Team Beverages 12pm
 - Team medallions provided by TCMHL for all participants



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Highlights

U8 Half Ice Game Play and Scheduling

- Games played outside TCMHL scheduled regular/end of season require travel permits
- All Jamborees require travel permits (excluding TCMHL Year End Show Case)
- Pod's will be finalized based on association interest and may be adjusted prior or during the season to ensure tiering by like skill is optimized

Game Play:

- Foam dividers or boards to divide the ice at centre red line
- Small nets required for U8 (if association is unable to provide nets smaller than 4x6 they must advise TCMHL & Regional Director in advance of program start date)
- 3 min warm up (option for 5 min if ice time permits)
- Max game time 60 mins, two 22 run time periods
- Face offs to start each half
- 4 on 4 hockey two game model (in the event of low numbers have the option to run 3 on 3 alternative or 1 half ice game model alternative)
- Visiting team switches ends at intermission
- Buzzers set to 90 sec
- Blue pucks required
- Tagging up is required when double shifting of players is needed as a result of low numbers (coaches must ensure all players have opportunity to double shift)
- On ice Officials (min 1 required, if association is unable to provide alternative option for supervision must be approved by TCMHL & OMHA Regional Director)
- Game flow and penalties to be implemented as per *page 21 of U9 Hockey Canada Pathway*
- Participation sheets must be used and submitted to U8 Convenor by the following submission dates:
 - November 30th 2023
 - February 29th 2024
 - April 13th 2024



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U9 MD Season Summary- Half Ice to January 15th 2024 & Transition to Full Ice Model

Prep/Evaluation & Development Phase
Sept 5th to Oct 15th 2023

- Prep Skates (min 4)
- Evaluations (min 3 prior to tiering)
- Focus on Skills/Development
- Up to 6 Exhibition Games

Regular Season Phase- Half Ice
Oct 16th to Jan 14th 2024

- Half ice games
- 10 games
- Seasonal break at Christmas

End of Season Phase
Jan 15th to April 7th 2024

- Full Ice Games
- 18 games
- TCMHL U9 Championship (weekend event) April 5th to 7th

Notes:

- Tiering of players grouped by like skill (i.e. MD 1, MD 2) & placed in “Pods” for game play (based on association submissions)
- On-going monitoring of Pods
- No Scores are kept/No Standings kept for half ice games
- iPad/Game Sheet Inc used for Full Ice Games, Scores & Standings kept
- 3 Jamborees or 1 Jamboree pre Jan 15th and 2 Tournaments Post Jan 15th
- Seasonal Break –Dec 24th 2023 to Jan 1, 2024
- Year End TCMHL Championship Weekend: **April 5th to 7th TBC By Nov 30th 2023**
 - Interested hosts to email Tri-County President and OMHA Regional Director by November 7th 2023 (host sharing between associations option)
 - Costing per team and event overview to be provided as part of host interest submission
 - Each team to play min 3 games (championship game 4th game)
 - Pizza Lunch and Team Beverages (Saturday April 6th)
 - Team medallions provided by TCMHL for all participants



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Highlights

U9 Half Ice & Full Ice Game Play and Scheduling

- Games played outside TCMHL scheduled regular/end of season require travel permits
- All Jamborees/tournaments require travel permits (excluding TCMHL Year End Show Case)
- Pod's will be finalized based on association interest and may be adjusted prior or during the season to ensure tiering by like skill is optimized

Half Ice Game Play:

- Small nets required for U9 half ice games (if association is unable to provide nets smaller than 4x6 they must advised TCMHL & Regional Director in advance of program start date)
- 3 min warm up (option for 5 min if ice time permits)
- Max game time 60 mins, two 22 run time periods for Half Ice Games
- Face offs to start each half
- 4 on 4 hockey two game model (in the event of low numbers direct option to run 3 on 3 alternative or 1 half ice game model alternative)
- Visiting team switches ends at intermission
- Buzzers set to 1 min
- Tagging up is required when double shifting of players is need as a result of low numbers (coaches to ensure all players have opportunity to double shift)
- On ice Officials required (min 1 required, if association is unable to provide alternative option for supervision must be approved by TCMHL & OMHA Regional Director)
- Game flow and penalties to be implemented as per [page 21 of U9 Hockey Canada Pathway](#)
- Participation sheets must be used and submitted to U9 Convenor by the following submission dates:
 - November 30th 2023
 - January 31st 2024



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U9 Full Ice Game Play and Scheduling

Full Ice Game Play:

- 4x6 nets required for U9 full ice games
- 3 min warm up (option for 5 min if ice time permits)
- 10-10-15 period lengths (no buzzers)
- Traditional full ice playing rules in effect
- Black pucks used for full ice games
- Affiliation U9 to U9 throughout the season, U9 to U10/U11 permitted after Jan 15th for full ice phase only
- Game Sheet Inc/iPads used for all full ice games



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Contact and Program Leads:

- Michelle Bridges, OMHA Regional Director (Region 3 Area C)
- Paul Allan, OMHA Regional Director (Region 3 Area F)
- Glen Davis, Tri County Minor Hockey League President
- U8/U9 Convenor: Future position

Decision Points Confirmed:

- Scheduling of games will be completed between ice-schedulers to support facility and association partnerships, feedback (as per survey results) confirmed capacity/interest to independently schedule.
- March Break regular season games may be scheduled if mutually agreed to by both associations
- ***Competition PODS are approved. Adjustments may be required in season to align groups by like skill***

Decision Points Pending Confirmation:

- Year end participation in TCMHL Championship optional, associations must communicate by Nov 7th, 2023 of their participation.



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Reminder:

- Pods will be monitored and adjusted if needed to address tiering by like skill
- Initial Pods are prioritized by the following:
 - Geographic areas
 - Facility and partnering between associations
 - Tiering options/association entries

Pods U8: Association confirmed entries as of Oct 9th 2023

South MD 1

1. Halton
2. Oakville
3. Milton
4. Burlington
5. Flamborough

South MD2

1. Halton
2. Oakville
3. Milton
4. Burlington
5. Flamborough

Central/East/West MD

1. Guelph 1
2. Brampton
3. Orangeville
4. Caledon
5. Woolwich
6. Hespeler
7. Centre Wellington
8. Guelph 2
9. New Hamburg

South/Central Pods may be combined for year end championships/wrap up



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Reminder:

- Pods will be monitored and adjusted if needed to address tiering by like skill
- Initial Pods are prioritized by the following:
 - Geographic areas
 - Facility and partnering between associations
 - Tiering options/association entries

Pods U9: Association confirmed entries as of Sept 30th 2023

South MD 1

1. Halton
2. Oakville
3. Milton
4. Burlington
5. Flamborough

Central/East MD 1

1. Guelph 1
2. Brampton
3. Orangeville
4. Caledon
5. Guelph 2

South MD 2

1. Halton
2. Oakville x2
3. Milton
4. Burlington x2
5. Flamborough

Central/West MD 1

1. Woolwich
2. Hespeler
3. Centre Wellington
4. Guelph 3
5. Caledon 2
6. Erin

South/Central Competition PODS may be combined for year end championship working group to confirm by January 2024



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Resources and Support Links

HOCKEY CANADA PLAYER PATHWAY - RESOURCES

[U7 Player Pathway](#)

[U9 Player Pathway](#)

ASPEN INSTITUTE – PROJECT PLAY

[Sport for All, Play for Life: A Playbook to Get Every Kid in the Game](#)