
Hockey Edmonton NOVICE Program – 2018 Summer Update

August 21, 2018

The Hockey Edmonton Novice Committee has met several times throughout the Spring and Summer to develop the 2018-19 Hockey Edmonton Novice Transition Program. The Committee will meet a few more times before the start of the season, to sort out the final operational and logistical items. Please recognize the most current and relevant program adjustments and updates before the 2018-19 season:

NOVICE PROGRAM OPERATIONS:

- All Hockey Edmonton DOA's MUST utilize **blue pucks** for Novice practices and games;
 - **Please note:** *Hockey Edmonton will be providing DOA's with the appropriate amounts of blue pucks. DOA's will be provided with these pucks before the start of the 2018-19 season;*
- Regulation sized nets will be used for both Novice practices and games;
- **Minor Novice:** half-ice practices, half-ice games;
 - No scorekeeping, no standings;
 - No full-time goaltenders;
 - Minor Novice half-ice game rules will be supplied by Hockey Canada/Alberta with some small modifications made by the Hockey Edmonton Novice Committee;
- **Major Novice:** half-ice practices, full-ice games;
 - Scorekeeping, hidden standings;
 - No full-time goaltenders;
 - Major Novice full-ice game rules will remain the same.

NOVICE PROGRAM COACH EDUCATION:

- DOA's should make note of the following NCCP Coach education components for Minor Novice and Major Novice level coaches:
 - Hockey Canada – Coach 1 (**Head Coach**);
 - Hockey Canada – Safety (**One Team Official**);
 - Respect in Sport (**all Team Officials**);
 - *Hockey Edmonton Minor Novice Coach Meetings (**all Team Officials**);*
 - *Hockey Edmonton Major Novice Coaches Meeting (with Atom) (**all Team Officials**);*
- Hockey Edmonton Minor Novice Coach Meetings have been posted on the Hockey Edmonton website. Registration will commence on September 1, 2018. Meetings will be 2-hours in length and are mandatory for ALL Hockey Edmonton Minor Novice Team Officials. Please [CLICK HERE](#) for further information;
- Hockey Edmonton Major Novice Coaches must attend the Hockey Edmonton Coaches Meeting on **October 22, 2018** at the Delta Edmonton South hotel. **More information to follow.**

NOVICE PROGRAM TEAM STRUCTURE:

- Both Minor Novice and Major Novice DOA's will follow the new Alberta One Standardized Tiering Model, when creating their respective Novice teams. Please [CLICK HERE](#) for further information;
 - Minor Novice roster size: 18 minima, 20 maximum (mandatory);
 - Major Novice roster size: 15 minima, 16 maximum (mandatory).

NOVICE PROGRAM RESOURCES:

- All Novice Program webpages have been updated on the Hockey Edmonton website;
- The "Hockey Edmonton NOVICE Implementation Guide Operations Manual" will be made available on **September 1, 2018** in the "Hockey Edmonton NOVICE Program Resources" webpage [CLICK HERE](#).

NOVICE PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

Please note the following scheduling logistics and dates of significance for the 2018-19 Hockey Edmonton Novice Program:

- Consistent times and locations for Novice ice-sessions were desired;
- **MOST** half-ice practices will be scheduled at the pre-identified "practice facilities";
- **ALL** half-ice games will be scheduled at one of the pre-identified "game/board facilities";
- Full-ice games will be located across the city, with geographic advantages;
 - 2019 Quickcard Edmonton Minor Hockey Week: **BOTH** Minor Novice and Major Novice will participate in mid-January 2019;
 - Playoffs: Major Novice teams will participate in the same Novice playoff format as last season;
 - Minor Novice Winter Jamboree: March 9-10, 2019 [CLICK HERE](#). All Minor Novice teams will end the season with two-games at the Minor Novice Winter Jamboree.

ATHLETE ACCELERATION & DECELERATION

- During the Spring of 2017, The Hockey Edmonton Board of Directors voted to NOT allow any underage/accelerated player applications from Initiation Program (TIMBITS) to Novice;
- During the Spring of 2018, The Hockey Edmonton Board of Directors voted to NOT allow any underage/accelerated player applications from the Novice Program to Atom;
- Deceleration is possible for 7-year-old Minor Novice athletes;
- Deceleration is possible for 8-year-old Major Novice athletes;
 - *There will be no players affiliations from Minor Novice to Major Novice.*