

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 2017 - 2018

Please check our website for Hockey 1.01 and Registration page for more information.

We use our website at www.gphockey.com as our main communication, as well as our Facebook page.

Please refer to both regularly to be updated on anything new.

USED EQUIPMENT SALE

The Equipment Sale will be held on Thursday, September 7 from 5:30 – 7:30 pm.

Items for resale can only be dropped off on Wed Sept 6 between 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm. GPMHA is NOT responsible for items dropped off.

GPMHA will take a 20% commission on items sold. Items must be clearly marked with your last name and the price.

All items not sold MUST BE PICKED UP BETWEEN 8 - 9 pm on Thursday Sept 7 or they are considered donated.

Equipment may also be donated and will be used for the Hockey Help's Fund for equipment or registration costs.

TEAM PICTURE NIGHTS

November 15 & 16 at the Coca Cola Centre.

REGISTRATION

Before any registration can be accepted, one parent must have completed the Parent Respect in Sport online course.

See information on this on our Registration page on our website.

This is a proactive, educational program that empowers parents with the tools to ensure the game is enjoyable and respectful for themselves, their children and all other stakeholders in the game.

If you already have children who have played hockey and wish to register a child who has not ever registered, you must add this new child to your Parent Respect In Sport profile.

What age must you be to start hockey?

The player must have been born in 2013.

What are the age categories?

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| - 2013 born = Tom Thumbs | do not have positions |
| - 2011 - 2012 born = Initiation | do not have positions |
| - 2009 - 2010 born = Novice | do not have positions |
| - 2007 - 2008 born = Atom | only named position is goalie |
| - 2005 - 2006 born = PeeWee | |
| - 2003 - 2004 born = Bantam | |
| - 2000 - 2002 born = Midget | |

What levels of competition are there?

FUNDamental hockey from Tom Thumbs - Novice

Recreation hockey from Atom - Midgets No Hit Hockey

Development hockey from Atoms - Midgets

Elite teams for Bantams - Midgets

What is the difference between recreation, Development and elite?

FUNDamental & Recreation is designed to mostly stay at home, although they do also play exhibition games.

Entry into tournaments must be a parent group decision. Players are not obligated to go.

Tom Thumb has one ice time on the weekend.

Initiation, Novice have two ice times on the weekends.

Atom and PeeWee GP have one practice during the week and two ice times on the weekends.

Weeknight practices will always be the same night of the week, which we will not know until fall team selections are done.

Recreation teams cannot collect team fees or have bank accounts.

All funds must flow through the GPMHA office.

Any fundraising initiatives must be approved by the GPMHA Treasurer.

Development teams will have tryouts and will travel on a regular basis with league and tournament play.

Depending upon the budgets arrived at, there will be an additional registration fee and monthly team fees, as well as fundraising.

There will be two practices during the week, as well as the weekend league or tournament games.

One of the practices may be at 6:30 - 7:15 am.

Elite teams will have tryouts and will travel on a regular basis with league play. League schedules usually do not leave much room for tournys.

There will be two to three practices during the week, plus dryland, plus the weekend league play.

There are considerable costs involved in elite hockey as the teams belong to Provincial leagues.

Development and elite teams have their own team bank accounts and collect monthly team fees.

Each team must provide a full financial statement to each parent and to the GPMHA Treasurer.

All fundraising initiatives must be approved by the GPMHA Treasurer.

Are there female teams?

Yes, in all age groups from Initiation up. We have FUNDamental, Recreation, Development and Elite teams.

Who are GPAC and PCFAC

These are subsidiary organizations created to oversee our Elite Zone teams.

GPAC runs the Major Midget AAA, Minor Midget AAA, Midget AA, Bantam AAA and Bantam AA Storm male teams.

PCFAC runs the Bantam and Midget Elite Storm female teams.

GPAC = Grande Peace Athletic Club

PCFAC = Peace Country Female Athletic Club

What are the Grande Prairie Boundaries?

Highway 43 in the north, the Smoky River in the east, the Wapiti River in the south, Range Road 71 in the west.

Why are there boundaries?

Hockey Alberta has mandated that each minor hockey association have their own boundaries.

We can take imports (from other assns) players on our elite and AA teams.

Can I still register in Grande Prairie if I do not live in your boundaries?

Yes, if there is no team in your home association and GPMHA is the closest association.

Yes, if you are trying out for an AA or AAA team.

When does registration run?

We start on June 1 and run until June 15, with extended office hours during these dates.

After June 15, there will be a \$ 150.00 late fee for returning players. First time and move in players do not pay the late fee.

We will still take registrations right up to evaluation dates, providing we have room.

We are normally open Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

We are located upstairs at the Coca Cola Centre Arena, 6 Knowledge Way, Grande Prairie.

How do I register?

First time players must register in person, **after completing the online Parent Respect in Sport and supplying a birth certificate.**

Returning players can register in person, by e-mail, or fax.

Payment of Fees

Payment can be by cheque, mastercard, visa, debit and cash. All first payments must be paid prior to evaluations or tryouts.

We accept post dated cheques as well as post dated mastercard or visa payments.

For post dated credit card payments, please complete the Promissory Note on our Registration page on the website.

There will be a \$ 40.00 admin fee on all dishonoured payments and the registration will be suspended.

Financial Support

We believe all children should be able to participate in hockey. If you need financial assistance, please talk to Lorna or Maureen in the office.

All such conversations are confidential and handled discretely. We can help with registration fees and equipment.

Equipment - What equipment do I need? See Hockey 1.01 on our website

Why are there evaluations for Recreation teams?

We try to keep the skill level for each team as even as possible.

Why do I have to pay a tryout or an evaluation fee?

To pay for the ice and referees and other expenses involved in evaluations and tryouts.

Why do I have to pay an extra registration fee for a Development or Elite team?

When calculating the registration fees, we have one base fee per division, which is all that the Recreation players pay.

The extra registration fee covers the extra practice ice, socks, league fees, etc. for the Development and Elite teams.

We registered in Recreation, can we switch to Development?

Yes upon paying the difference in the tryout fee, providing the change is made the week before evaluations start.

We registered in Development, can we switch to Elite?

Yes upon paying the difference in the tryout fee and approval from GPAC or PCFAC.

Can we request to be on a certain team?

Special requests are not permitted.

If Exceptional Circumstances/Situations exist, there is a provision for you to formally apply in writing at least 2 weeks prior to first ice time.

Convenience is not considered "Exceptional".

How much ice is included in the base registration fee?

25 hours for Tom Thumbs
20 hours shared ice (40 per player) Initiation
24 hours shared ice (45 per player) Novice C and D
45 hours shared ice (80 per player) Atom Recreation
90 hours Atom Development
45 hours shared ice (80 per player) PeeWee Recreation
90 hours PeeWee AA, Development
65 hours Bantam No Hit
65 hours Bantam C
90 hours Bantam Development
65 hours Midget C No Hit
90 hours Midget Development
135 hours all GPAC and PCFAC teams

keep in mind that the extra registration fee pays for costs over & above the base fee for the Atom - Midget Development and Elite teams.

What is the cost of the ice?

we pay \$ 128.10 in the City and \$ 132.30 in the County
per hour of ice. We must also pay for a .15 minute flood
at the end of every practice or game.

Do we have to fundraise?

Yes - GPMHA has fundraising projects that all members participate in - regardless of where your child plays.
Each member of each team or division must participate fully in fundraisers. If you do not, you will be expected to pay your share.
There is a Fundraising Fee of \$ 200.00 to each registration. This is paid along with the yearly registration, etc fees.
In the fall, raffle tickets will be available to each player's parents to sell in order to recoup the fundraising fee **if you so desire.**
Once all of the tickets in a book are sold, the parent then turns the ticket stubs in by the appointed date.

What is included in our registration fee?

Advertising, Coach Education, Coaching Mentor Expenses, Computer Costs, Equipment, Ice, Ice Coordinator, Insurance, League Fees, Meeting Rooms, Office staff, Office supplies, Referees, Referee Clinics, Registration for Hockey Alberta/Canada, Rent, Socks for some teams, Memorial Awards, Sponsor Awards, Telephone, Fax, Travel, Xerox

Clothing - Team Apparel

Every 3 years GPMHA requests quotations on all GPMHA or Knight's branded clothing from local suppliers. We award the contract in 3 year terms to the company which the executive feels will best be able to meet our needs, taking into consideration who will be able to provide the best service at the best price along with the vendor's support of the community and our association. We are proud of the GPMHA and Knight's names and want them displayed in the best possible way, treating it as our "brand" and trying to keep how our brand is represented as consistent as possible. We also need to ensure that we are giving proper recognition to our team sponsors which is why only certain options are allowed. Starting 2017 - 2018 Ernie's Sports Experts & ProSport has been awarded the contract for the next 3 seasons. On our website we will provide an updated Apparel Brochure along with information on how to access the online clothing store for items other than the Team Wear.

Refunds

If you register early and your child suffers an injury or illness that prevents them from playing, or if they simply decide they do not want to play, a full refund less the admin fee will be provided if de-registration occurs prior to the evaluations/try-outs.
Only first time players will be granted some exceptions to the following, pending written request to the GPMHA Executive.
On any subsequent refund request, refunds will be given ONLY with a medical certificate or proof of moving from the GPMHA area.
Non-refundable administration fee of \$ 40.00 and a non-refundable Hockey Alberta insurance fee of \$ 40.00 will be kept on each refund request.

EVALUATIONS AND TRY OUTS

Start dates for all divisions are on the last page.

Evaluation and Tryout Process

All players at the Atom level or older must pay a non refundable evaluation fee & indicate whether they want to be evaluated in the Elite (GPAC/PCFAC), Development (AA, A, B, C) or the Recreational (equal teams) Levels.

We have three goals within our Evaluation system:

to have all players compete at their highest level, to offer more opportunities at the Development level and to have parity within all levels.
There will be separate evaluations for each of the Elite, AA, Development, and Recreation divisions.

FROM GPAC/PCFAC TO GPMHA

If a player (local) attends a GPAC/PCFAC Tryout, does not make a GPAC/PCFAC team, they must then pay the GPMHA Evaluation Fee to the GPMHA office prior to entering into the A Evaluations. Only local players would continue on to Development Evaluations A, B, C.

Development - includes Atom to Midget, male and female

Development evaluations begin once GPAC and PCFAC tryouts are completed.

Paying GPMHA AA and/or Development Evaluation Fees would entitle the local player to the lower level evaluations at no charge.

Once the evaluations/try outs are **completed** and the player is advised of his/her placement, the only movement allowed will be as follows:

The player cannot move from AA to A and displace an A level player, who would in turn displace a B level player etc.

The only option would be to move from A or B to C in Bantams/Midgets or from AA, A, B or C to the equal teams in Atoms and PeeWees.

GPMHA will not necessarily have all of the AA, A, B and C divisions, dependent upon registration and the skill level of those being evaluated.

RECREATION - Includes Tom Thumbs, Initiation, Novice, Atom GP, PeeWee GP and No Hit teams Bantam & Midget

Recreation evaluations will be held one or two weeks after the Development evaluations.

There will be a further two or three week post evaluation period before the Recreational teams are formally set, to allow for movement to ensure the teams are of equal calibre.

NOVICE - (2009 & 2010 born)

Novice evaluate together. This process will differentiate the Novice C and D Divisions, which are both still recreation divisions.

Can I help with the team my child is on?

Yes with the proper certification and proper paperwork: team staff application & police information check.

What courses do I need to Coach?

Every member of the team staff must have a Staff application form, police information check, Respect in Sport Coach and/or the old Speak Out certification.

Team staff are head coach, assistant coaches, trainers, managers.

All **new** head coaches and assistants for players ages 4 - 8, must have the Coach 1 - Intro to Coach certification.

If you already held Coach Level 2 **PRIOR to 2014**, you do not need to get Coach Level 1.

All head coaches and assistants for players ages 9 +, must have the Coach 2 certification.

All head coaches and assistants for players ages 9 +, must have the Checking Skills certification.

All head coaches and assistants for AA levels PeeWee - Midget must have the Development 1 certification.

All head coaches for AAA must have the High Performance certification.

All assistant coaches for AAA must have the Development 1 certification.

All teams must have two staff certified in the Canadian Hockey Trainer's Program.

No one can be on the ice or bench unless they are certified as above and have proper paperwork in.

How old do you have to be to become a referee?

You must be 12 years old by December 31 of the current year.

When is the referee clinic?

September 23. For more info go to peacezone.ca

There will be an online portion to complete first. Registration fee will be collected at the clinic.

What arenas do we play at?

Coke Cola Center, Dave Barr, Canada Games, Clairmont, Grovedale and the County Sportsplex are considered home ice.

We request that all facilities and staff be treated with the best of respect.

Fines will be issued for puck marks in any facility anywhere other than on the ice.

24 Hour Respect Rule

All parents, players, relatives and friends must adhere to the 24 Hour Respect Rule by waiting a full 24 hours prior to contacting any Parent Liaison, Coaches, Managers, or Grande Prairie Minor Hockey Representatives regarding any hockey concerns or issues.

Complaints, concerns - Proper Communciation

Please follow the following protocol for questions or complaints. If your concern is not satisfied at the lowest level, then proceed to the next.

Under no circumstances is texting team staff while a team activity is going on appropriate.

Parent > Parent Liason > Coach or Manager > Commissioner > Vice President > President > Executive as a whole

All concerns or complaints must be submitted in writing and must be signed.

Insurance

All players and officials associated with GPMHA are covered by mandatory liability insurance through Hockey Canada.

This IS NOT an accident insurance policy. It is recommended each player and official obtain their own insurance.

For more information on the insurance go to www.hockeyalberta.ca under the Members tab.

Jerseys

Name Bars are not allowed on any GPMHA jersey. Players are NEVER to take their jerseys home.

Each team must have one or two Jersey Directors, who will volunteer to collect the Jerseys from each child after each game, wash them WEEKLY as per the approved instructions, and ensure that they remain together in the sweater bag in good as condition as possible.

All Cs and As must be purchased from ProSport and sewn on by a professional.

Jerseys that are not returned or are returned damaged or abused at the end of the season will be billed out.

Recreation Exhibition Games and Tournaments

All of our Recreation level teams may be invited to play other teams from the surrounding area for the occasional game or for a tournament.

All travel must be approved by the Commissioner for each level. Parents must bear all costs relative to these games.

Volunteers

Other than the office staff, GPMHA is a volunteer run association. We need each and every parent to help in ways they are comfortable with.

GENERAL

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call us.

We can be reached through the office at the Coca Cola Centre, by phone 539-6177, fax 539-0398, or e-mail gpmha@telus.net.

We invite you to browse our website at www.gphockey.com.

Like our Facebook page = Grande Prairie Minor Hockey and follow us on Twitter!

EVALUATIONS AND TRY OUTS

When will we know the start dates? There may be some changes due to number of players registered.

You will be notified by email as to exactly when your player will start.

ALL GOALIES will be evaluated Sept 5 - 7, except for GPAC & PCFAC

Midget Elite Female Tryout - Sept 8

Midget A Female - will start as soon as we have enough players

Bantam Elite Female Tryout - Sept 8

Bantam A Female - will start as soon as we have enough players

PeeWee Female A Tryout - Sept 8

PeeWee Female B - soon after

Atom Female - as soon as we have enough players

Midget Major AAA male - August 29

Midget Minor AAA (U16) male - Sept 1

Midget AA - Sept 7 - will start skating, tryouts start Sept 22

Midget Development - Sept 29

Midget No Hit Evaluations - Oct 6

Bantam AAA and AA male - August 18

Bantam Development - September 22

Bantam No Hit Evaluations - Oct 6

PeeWee AA - Aug 25

PeeWee Development - Sept 8

PeeWee Recreation Conditioning - Sept 22

PeeWee Recreation Evaluations - Sept 29

Atom Development - Sept 15

Atom Recreation Conditioning - Sept 23

Atom Recreation Evaluations - Sept 30

Novice 1 - 3 Conditioning - Sept 8

Novice 1 - 3 Evaluations - Sept 15

Initiation and Tom Thumbs - Oct 14