

**Grande Prairie Minor Hockey
2018 – 2019 Intro to Hockey – Novice Program**

**All in town & out of town Novice ice times will be half ice play.
7 & 8 year olds will be combined and evaluated together and tiered according to skill on
mixed age teams.**

- There will be set practice / development days and set game days in order for us to keep our 2 to 1 ratio of practices to games.
- There will be 2 teams on the ice on practice/development ice and 2 teams on the ice for game days.
- The Commissioner of each Tier will control all travel for exhibition and tournaments. If one team is travelling, then one team from another association must come in. Under no circumstances on game days is there to be one team on the ice.
- There will be a maximum of 3 away tournaments and 1 home tournament allowed, again must be authorized in writing by the Commissioner.
- GPMHA will provide Coach Education Seminars before the season starts for all coaching staff to go over Season plans, etc.

Team Format	2 team model for practice & development days, 2 team model for game days
Ice Orientation	Half ice
Rink Dividers	Foam dividers or board system
Centre Net Placement	Place net at bottom of circle to enable the middle circle ice marking to be used as the goal line. This placement also allows for a buffer to prevent pucks from crossing into the other playing surface
Game Format	4 vs 4 plus goalie
Game Length	Two 24 minute halves - if ice allows
Game Warm Up	3 minutes
Shift Length	1.5 mins. Buzzer is set to 1.5 min intervals, on buzzer players leave puck, go to bench and new players enter the ice and continue to play)
Nets	Small goalie nets
Puck	Recommend Blue Puck (4oz)
Goalie Equipment	Yes, 2 sets will be required
Score Kept	No
Benches	Teams share benches
Standings	None
Statistics	None
Game Sheets	Not required
Positional Play	No position specialization, no full-time goalies, every player takes a turn
Officials	One per game if available or done by coaches
Face-Offs	Start of game and second half
Off-Side & Icing	None
Puck Out of Play	Referee drops new puck to non-offending team
Goaltender Freezes Puck	Referee blows whistle, offending team backs off and goalie gives puck to a teammate to resume play
Goal is scored	Referee blows whistle to signal goal, scoring team backs off and goalie pulls puck out of his net and gives to teammate to resume play.
Penalties	-Referee puts arm up to signal penalty, if offending team has the puck it is a change of possession as indicated by the referee. -At the buzzer at the end of the shift the referee tells the coach what the penalty was and who got it. -Offending player misses next shift, team still plays full strength.