

Home of the Windsor Wildcats, LaSalle Sabrecats, Tecumseh Tigercats & Southwest Wildcats



3205 Forest Glade Drive, Windsor, ON, N8R1W7
SPFHAhockey.com

Sun Parlour Female Hockey Association SPFHA Development Stream Program Frequently Asked Question's

What is DS?

Development Stream (DS) is a subset of Houseleague intended to further develop those Houseleague players looking to bridge the gap between Houseleague and Travel Hockey (in skill or availability). The Houseleague Development Stream Program (DS) began in 2011 as a pilot project in response to requests from members of the OWHA to find a solution to bridge the gap between houseleague and competitive (travel) play.

Who can play?

All players registered within the SPFHA houseleague program are eligible to try out for a DS team. There are no residency restrictions. Ultimately it will be up to the coach to select his or her team in the manner they deem suitable, with the goal of providing the best possible development opportunity for all involved. The program is not intended for beginners (players just starting into hockey this season).

Please note that DS teams in each division (U9, U11, U13 and U15) is dependent on the number of travel teams, number of houseleague players and the number of players trying out for the DS team in that division. Formation of DS teams for each division may vary from year to year and thus may or may not be available in that division from year to year.

It is important to note that the DS program supplements the houseleague program meaning that all DS players must be registered in houseleague and attend houseleague games and practices regularly. This may result in players having two games/practices on the same day. DS teams will not schedule games or practices that conflict with the houseleague schedule without consent from the Executive.

How can players try out?

In accordance with OWHA, DS tryouts cannot take place until November 1. As a development program, every houseleague player is eligible to attend a tryout. Tryouts are conducted, and cuts are made such that teams will have a maximum of 17 rostered players (2 goalies, 15 skaters). There are spots for alternates to practice with the team and play when rostered players are absent.

How will teams be selected?

Each team will consist of a maximum of 15 skaters and 2 goalies with up to 8 alternates that may be added throughout the season. In order to play on a DS team, players must attend all tryouts for her age group or receive an exemption in advance from the DS coach of that division and approved by the DS coach and/or SPFHA executive. DS teams are intended as a development program for Houseleague players to improve their game and as such the team selection may reflect this intention at the discretion of the DS coach and tryout evaluators for that division.

Why was my daughter cut at the tryouts?

Players at tryouts are evaluated and compared to the other players at the tryout. Background information on a player may be taken into consideration such as their performance, past performance, and the DS team's pre-tryout evaluation skate. Other factors such as the purpose of the program (development) may also be factors being considered. You may ask the coach as to why your daughter was cut or you may express your concern to the VP of

Houseleague and the Skills Development Convenor. If there are less than 15 players and 2 goalies at the tryout, the executive along with the DS coach will decide whether or not running a DS team will be feasible.

How many games and practices will there be?

The OWHA has stipulated that DS teams can play a maximum of 8 exhibition games against other DS teams and enter a maximum of 3 DS tournaments. Games/tournaments are to be scheduled without conflicts to Houseleague games in the best effort. The number of practices will be determined by the coach in consultation with the team and parents to match desired commitment and budget levels after taking consideration the predetermined allocated ice from SPFHA for the DS teams.

How much travel will be involved?

This will depend on which other associations will have DS teams and the number of games and tournaments that a DS team has chosen to play. We anticipate that associations such as London, Kitchener, Waterloo, Hamilton, Aurora, Mississauga, Oakville and Etobicoke will operate DS teams.

How much will it cost?

The largest expenditure for hockey teams is the cost of ice. In addition to ice costs, there other expenses such as tournament entry fees, referees, etc. that will come into play. Fees may be in upwards of \$500 and will be determined on team involvement. Each DS coach will prepare a team budget that will be shared with the parents and submitted for approval.

Where are the schedules for DS teams posted?

DS teams will have their own webpage, contact information, news and calendar on the SPFHA website. However, since associations are not permitted to hold DS tryouts until November 1st, it is difficult to book games with other centres until teams have been selected. Once a DS team has had their tryouts and the team is approved by the SPFHA Executive, a schedule will be planned and distributed fairly quickly as games are arranged and tournaments are booked.

DS Tryout Dates, Times and Locations will be emailed to registered SPFHA members posted on the website.

If you have any other questions or concerns, contact the VP of Houseleague at houseleague@spfahockey.com