# U13/U15 Development Programs Overview

## Purpose of the Program

To provide programing to athletes who are seeking a higher level of development and competition while still engaging WMHA's house league hockey program and to encourage athlete retention in the U13/U15 divisions by providing desirable options to players.

### Focus of the Program

While continuing to fulfill the mandates of Hockey Canada and BC Hockey, the U13/U15 Development Program aims to focus on these five elements

- Increased and improved development
- Increased physical literacy and on ice creativity
- Increased exposure to and understanding of team tactics and systems
- Exposure to competition outside of the Territory
- Continued nurturing of respect and positive attitudes toward all aspects of life through the game of hockey

#### **Program Summary**

- All the U13/U15 Development players will play on a house league team
- The initial U13/U15 Development rosters will consist of approx. 16 skaters and 2 goaltenders
- The rosters will increase to 18-20 skaters by Christmas break depending on skill level and improvement of prospective players

## **Program Eligibility**

- Following house league evaluations, all U13/U15 house league players will be eligible to register, pay for and attend tryouts for the respective U13/U15 Development teams
- The players will be evaluated based on WMHAs Tryout and Evaluation criteria
- Number of tryout skates will depend on the number of players trying out for the U13/U15 Development teams

## **Program Structure**

- U13/U15 Development teams will have one additional ice time per week
- U13/U15 Developments teams will take part in local exhibition games starting mid September
- Teams will attend two out of town tournaments per season with all players on the development roster invited to play in at least one (1) of these tournaments

## Costs

Participation in the U13/U15 Development programs will come at an additional cost to cover additional ice, tournament entries and player/parent travel. Families will be given the opportunity to fundraise in an attempt to offset these costs. \*All development players are expected to have a WMHA tracksuit



