

District Three 2009-2010 Rules Initiation Program (IP)

The following playing rules are based on the ODMHA Initiation Program Policy and Guidelines and District Three's Rules and Regulations. For games played outside of the District please check for any additional rules that they may be using.

The Initiation Division shall consist of 2 levels: Initiation A – 4 and 5 yr olds & Initiation B – 6 yr olds. See Novice Program for 7 & 8 yr olds.

1. **All** IP Instructors (i.e. coaching staff) must take the Intro Coach Course and participate in a Speak Out Clinic. Any new instructor must take the course within 30 days of the first ice session.
2. There must be certified/registered Trainer present and available at all IP events (on or off ice).
3. Initiation Program participants must have a minimum of 20 practices before playing full games. Controlled scrimmages are allowed in the last 10 minutes of these practices only. Associations are to ensure that IP Instructors follow the lesson plans in the Initiation Program Instructor's Manual.
4. Pucks: Init **A** and **B** shall use the 4 oz pucks during games & practices.
5. Goaltenders: Init **A** will rotate a regular dressed player in goals every shift. Init **B** will have a fully dressed goaltender for all games (This includes blocker, glove and the throat/neck shield. The throat/neck shield is not required in the **A** division). Goaltenders have to participate as player for 20 practices before they may dress and practice as a goalie.
6. Init **A** will be allowed to participate in a maximum of 2 fun days events and **B** will be allowed 3. District requires travel permits for all fun day. The travel permit is to be submitted to the District President Initiation/Novice for approval (this has been delegated by the District Chair).
7. Teams are only allowed to play the following maximum number of games during the season (excludes fun days and Timbit Jamboree):
A 12 games 8 scheduled by district, 4 floaters (exhibition)
B 15 games 10 scheduled by district, 5 floaters (exhibition)

The season will begin early December 2009 and end Mar 7/10.

Exhibition games are to be scheduled by the teams themselves but must be approved by their Association IP Coordinator and reported to the District President IP (in advance of the game being played). All Exhibition games are required to have a game number assigned by the District President IP.

8. Game sheets: Every game played requires a game sheet, signed by the home Association's IP Coordinator. Every game played has to be reported to the District President IP (this includes exhibition and fun days), through the local IP Coordinator. The white copy of the game sheet is to be mailed or given to the District President IP within 1 week of the game.
9. Only goals are to be recorded on the games sheets, not who scored them (i.e. no individual player statistics). The purpose of recording the goals is for determining how balanced the teams are compared to one another.
10. Games shall be played with 2 min. running time buzzer system. Time shall be stopped between shifts. Periods will be 10 min, 10 min, and balance of time remaining for 3rd period – running time except for shift changes.
11. Scores: no score shall be recorded on score board
12. The whistle will be blown when goalies freeze the puck and a face-off held in the zone (no throwing the puck into the corner to resume play).
13. One instructor from each team must be on the ice (mandatory) during a game. For **A** it is recommended that two instructors per team be on the ice.
14. Penalties will be called at all levels. The penalized player shall go to their bench for substitution and must miss the next shift.
15. Players must have **EQUAL ICE TIME** regardless of the game situation or player's talent (all divisions).
16. Affiliation of players – There is no affiliation allowed in Initiation. **Players six year olds or under are not allowed to affiliate or play (including practices) Novice hockey.**
17. IP Teams are not permitted to play teams outside of ODMHA.
18. Fun days shall have no finals. MVP awards can not be given out at any age division. Prizes must be drawn or given to all players.
19. The rules above are a highlight of the main rules or supplemental - coaches must be aware of all the rules, applicable to Initiation, contained within the District Three Rules & Regulations as well as the ODMHA Rules & Regs.

Please remember - The Program is designed to make a child's first contact with hockey a safe and positive experience. The goals of the program are to be achieved in an atmosphere of fun and fair play.

Hockey for the Fun of it!

District Three 2008-2009 Rules Novice Program

Within the District the Novice Division (7 & 8 yr olds) is part of the overall Initiation Program with game (playing) rules of the higher levels (atom and up).

1. The Novice Program is **non-competitive** (i.e. house league) and shall be tiered based on caliber (B and C with B being higher). The division of teams should be completed by the end of September.
2. 7 or 8 yr old players just starting in hockey are permitted to go down to Initiation B to improve their skills. At the end of October they are expected to return to Novice providing they have obtained the necessary skills to play at the Novice C level. If the player is to remain in Initiation, he/she must be evaluated (by District) and approved by District. If an evaluation is required, please contact the District President Initiation/Novice.
3. 9 yr old players just starting in hockey are permitted to play their first year in Novice hockey if their skill level warrants such a move and upon evaluation and approval by District. If an evaluation is required, please contact the District President Initiation/Novice.
4. If association numbers warrant only one team that team shall play in the B division. The Association may ask District to play in the C Division. Permission will be granted only after the District evaluates the team. If an evaluation is required, please contact the District President Initiation/Novice.
5. Every person who serves in an on-ice instruction role must have the Intro Coach (formerly the IP Instructor) course. In addition all head coaches must have the Coach Stream (former Coach Level). If the bench-staff member is just starting at the Novice level (and will not be involved at the Initiation level) please contact District to request permission for them to take only the Coach Stream course. It is highly recommended that at least one other member of the coaching staff also have their Coach Stream in the event that the head coach is unavailable.
6. Every team must have a certified/registered Trainer at all team events (on or off-ice).
7. The players/teams will practice twice a week until the middle of October. It is highly recommended that all Associations have their coaches follow the Nike Novice Skills Manual for practices.
8. Regular season includes 18 scheduled games. The regular season will begin the weekend of October 17/09 and end the weekend of February 13/10.
9. All teams are required to show up at all scheduled games. No games can be cancelled or rescheduled between coaches without approval by the District President Initiation/Novice or District Chair/Co-Chair (if the President - IP can not be reached).

10. Rescheduling games: As per the District Three Rules and Regs a team must give a minimum of two (2) weeks notice to request to reschedule the game. As well, if a league game prior to the Christmas break has to be rescheduled it must be played prior to the Christmas break. League games after the Christmas break must be played prior to the date of the originally scheduled game. If teams can not agree on the new date the District President Initiation/Novice shall have the final say. **NOTE:** League games take priority over tournaments.
11. Length of Periods: there shall be two 10 min stop time with the 3rd period being the balance of the ice time remaining (to make 50 minutes). Novice does not use the secondary running clock (that is they do not have to play the 10 minutes within 15 minutes like they do in Atom & up). The periods are not to finish before the 10 minutes have expired except in the 3rd if the ice time is over before the time remaining on the clock.
12. Game sheets: Every league or exhibition game played requires a game sheet, signed by the home Association's Initiation/Novice Coordinator. The white copy of the game sheet is to be mailed or given to the District President Initiation/Novice within 1 week of the game, by the home Association (i.e. must be received by the Friday immediately following the weekend it was played). District will enforce the late game sheet fine. The fine for every late game sheet is \$25.00.

Only the goals are to be recorded on the game sheet (not who scored them).

Game sheets must have the game number, date and time recorded. Teams using pre-printed roster labels are to ensure that a label is affixed on all 4 copies of the game sheet.

13. Every game played has to be reported to the District President (this includes exhibition and tournaments), through the Association Novice VP/Coordinator.
14. Teams are allowed to participate in a maximum of 4 tournaments including their home tournament. **District requires travel permits to be completed for all tournaments - even those within ODMHA.** The travel permit for non-ODMHA tournaments/exhibition games are to be submitted to the District President Initiation/Novice for approval (this has been delegated by the District Chair). Travel permits for ODMHA (i.e. in-branch) tournaments are to be submitted to your local Association President. See District Rules and Regulations 15.0 for further clarification.
15. Exhibition Games: Novice C teams are allowed a maximum of 8 games during the season; Novice B teams are allowed a maximum of 10 games. During the month of October, no more than 4 exhibition games are permitted (per team). The District President Initiation/Novice must be informed of all exhibition games, before they are played, by the team's Novice VP. There shall be no exhibition games played prior to October.

Please remember that ODMHA strongly recommends a ratio of 2 practices for every 1 game. On average our season has a 1:1 ratio so exhibition games are not to be scheduled in place of the practice if the team has a game that week (unless they have 2 practice hours and a game).

16. Players must have **EQUAL ICE TIME** regardless of the game situation or player's talent (all divisions). This includes tournament play.
17. There will be no individual statistics kept during the District Three playing season; however, we will have team placement stats.
18. A round robin will replace the playoffs at the end of the season. There shall be no championship game played. As per the District Three Rules & Regulations teams are not to participate in tournaments during the first 3 weeks of the playoffs; for novice this translates to the three weeks in which the end-of-season round robin is played.
19. Teams must keep the same team list provided to the District for all games and tournaments as per ODMHA regulations.
20. Affiliation - **Novice C** teams cannot affiliate since ODMHA does not allow 6 yr olds to play novice hockey. Novice B can affiliate Novice C players providing they are of caliber. If more than one player is on the affiliation list, teams must rotate through the list and not always call up the same player.

Only skilled 2nd-year (i.e. 8 yr olds) Novice players will be permitted to be affiliated with Atom **Nation**. Only under exceptional circumstances shall 7 yr olds be permitted to be affiliated to atom. A request must be brought before District (through District President Initiation/Novice) for approval with a justification/reasoning.

A player can only be affiliated with one (1) team if using the 19 Player Affiliation. If more than one player is affiliated with Atom, they must be rotated. (**Note:** The ODMHA Affiliation rules & forms must be used).

Affiliated players can not play for the affiliated team until all necessary paperwork has been signed and submitted to the District Registrar.

Novice age players will not be permitted to play for or be affiliate to a competitive atom (i.e. PGL) team, this includes participation at practices.

21. Only a 2nd year Novice player can be considered for moving up to an atom nation (permanently) team. This will be at the home Associations discretion; however, they must inform District President Initiation/Novice of this decision.
22. All suspensions must be reported within 24 hours by the Association Novice VP/Coordinator via email to the District President Initiation/Novice. No phone calls please unless it is an emergency (i.e. there is a game within that 24-hour time period).
23. The rules above are either the main rules or supplemental - coaches must be aware of all the rules, applicable to Novice, contained within the District Three Rules & Regulations as well as the ODMHA Rules & Regs.
24. Most Important Rule – Ensure everyone has fun!