

Session #2 Waterloo Region Playing Group

Policies and Procedures

Team Structure

- All players registered for Session #2 will be placed into Training Groups.
- Training Groups may have one or two Playing Teams based on number of players in a Training Group
 - Training Groups that are 10 players or less will have one Playing Team. On our website, you will only see one Training Group listed for your age & colour (i.e. U15 Orange). U11 White, U13 White, U15 Orange and U18 Orange are all single Playing Teams.
 - If your Training Group has more than 10 players, you represent two Playing Teams. On our website, you will see two Training Groups listed for your age & colour (i.e. U15 Blue & U15 Blue 2). All U9 Training Groups and all rep Training Groups have two Playing Teams.

Ice times

- All Training Groups will have 16 home ice times, including one practice per week.
- Each U11 – U18 Rep Playing Team will have approximately 4 home games and 4 or 5 away games
- Each Local League Playing Team (including all U9 Playing Teams) will have 3 home games and 3 away games. Any unused home ice times will be replaced with practices.
- If your Training Group represents two Playing Teams, you **MUST** check the game schedule for both Playing Teams (i.e. U15 Blue AND U15 Blue 2).

Health Screening

- Each centre is responsible for screening their own players, team staff and spectators using SportsHeadz.
- Use the Spectator Screening Card with the QR code for any spectators from your team that do not have SportsHeadz (or direct them to our website which also has a link for the Spectator Screening).
- Some arenas will require that you also use their screening process:
 - Wellesley (Twin Centre) – sign in as you enter the arena
 - Cambridge (all City owned arenas) – sign in as you enter the arena

- Cambridge (Sports Park) – this is a private arena that only allows 8 spectators and those spectators must be paying restaurant customers. Spectators must sign in at the door.
Use Buckingham Sports Screening Forms for players and team staff; these should be completed in advance.

U11 – U18 Game length

- The OWHHA has suggested the game length shown below, however, they has given us approval to adjust the period lengths, and warm-up and intermission times if we feel it is appropriate.
- **Therefore, coaches may discuss and agree on a different format if they wish. We suggest you call or email the other coach in advance to do this.** If you can't agree, you must default to the OWHHA suggested game length.
- OWHHA suggested game length:
 - 5 minute warm-up
 - 2 x 22 minute run time periods
 - 1 minute intermission
- Another suggested format is:
 - 3 minute warm-up
 - 10, 15, 15 minute run time periods
 - 2 minute intermissions
- Keep in mind, you have 50 minutes of ice time starting from your SCHEDULED START TIME. The game must be curfewed at that point.

U9 Game length

- Three minute warm-up
- Two 20 minute periods to allow time for set up.
- 1:30 minute buzzers (2 minutes in St. Jacobs as the clock will not allow 1:30 minutes)
- Teams will play on one end of the ice.

Game Play policies

- We are permitted to take a maximum of 9 skaters and a goalie to each game, **subject to rink limitations at the arena you are playing in.** *For example, some arenas only allow 24 people at the ice level and this typically includes players and coaching staff. Therefore, if both teams were to bring 10 players that would only permit 2 team staff per team. Please review the arena limits before deciding how many players and staff to take to a particular game.* We recommend you take 8 skaters and a goalie to each game.

- *For example, if a Training Group has 18 players and both an away game and a home game on the weekend, the coach will send 9 players to the home game and the other 9 to the away game.*
- *If a Training Group only has 16 players, 9 players will go to the home game and a different 9 will go to the away game. Thus, some players could have 2 games to play in on one week and only 1 game most other weeks.*
- Coaches will assign players to Playing Teams and may change the players on these Playing Teams on a game by game basis.
- Coaches must develop a schedule for players to ensure all players have an equal opportunity to participate in games.
- It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to ensure that all players are given equal opportunity to participate given their health and availability.
- All players should expect to be on the ice two times per week on average (one practice and one game).

Pick-up Players

- Pick-up players from other Training Groups are NOT permitted.
- If a player is unwell, a player from your own Training Group, that is not playing that day, may take their place.
- If not, play with a reduced roster.
- Let opposing coach know if you would rather play 3-on-3 due to absences on your team.

Game Curfew Policy

Woolwich Wild Girls Hockey has a curfew on all of our ice times. Here are the procedures that all teams should be following to enforce the curfew for games.

- All game sheets must have the curfew marked down in the top section of the Game Sheet. **This curfew needs to be initialled by both teams.**
- Coaches and/or managers are to ensure the timekeeper knows about the curfew, and knows it is their responsibility to sound the buzzer at the curfew time.

Game Sheets

OWHA game sheets are used for all games to track attendance for insurance purposes.

- You can use pre-printed labels for game sheets or you can hand write the names in. Given the limited time you will have before the game begins, we strongly suggest you use pre-printed labels. We have provided a fill-in PDF form for teams to use to create game sheet labels.
- Bring your own pens so you don't need to share

- All players and staff present at the game must be listed (cross out any players or staff that are not present if you are using pre-printed labels)
- One team staff member from each team will sign the game sheet.
- Players will not sign the game sheets
- Hockey Canada Officiating Program (HCOP) Officials will sign as per their protocol.
- Hand hygiene protocols to be followed at all times.
- Home team will keep the white and home team copies of the game sheets. Hold on to your copies until 30 days past the end of the season ends and then you can shred them.

Bench Staff

- All bench staff must wear a face mask at all times while in the facility and on the bench.
- Please refer to the arena sheet for your game for the maximum number of team staff permitted.
- For most arenas there is a limit to the number of staff permitted on the bench. You must also keep in mind the 'at ice level' maximum number of people in order to ensure your players plus team staff do not exceed half of that amount.
- In Woolwich, you are limited to 3 team staff on the bench and a total of 12 people at ice level; ideally two coaches, one trainer and 9 players at the game. If you decide to bring 10 players, you will be limited to one coach and one trainer.
- While strongly recommended, it is not necessary to have a female on the bench. However, as a reminder, per OWHA rules, you must have at least one female rostered to your Training Group.
- Strongly recommend that all Training Groups have two trainers to ensure you will always have a trainer available to attend your ice time. This can be accomplished by a coach also taking a trainer course.
- Some arenas allow the Trainer to sit in the penalty box to allow for more staff on the bench. Woolwich DOES NOT allow this. No one is permitted to be in the penalty box in Woolwich.
- Remember to practice the two-deep rule at all times.
- When any player under the age of 18 is in the team dressing room(s) before, during and after a game, tryout or practice, a minimum of two of the following shall be present in the dressing room(s) or immediately outside the dressing room(s) with the door ajar: two team or association officials, properly screened or one such official and an adult person, 18 years or older, associated with the team.
- The OWHA recommends at least one of the individuals supervising a dressing room be a female.

Referees

- U9 games will have one HCOP official.
- U11 – U18 games will have two HCOP officials.
- In Woolwich, HCOP officials and the timekeeper do not count as part of the on-ice maximum number of people. This is not true at all facilities.
- The referee emergency contact information is:
 - Kurt Wilkie Assignor/Scheduler 519-826-1220
 - Alex Martin President 519-502-1949

Penalties

- All penalties will be penalty shots.
- The infraction should be recorded on the gamesheet.
- See OWHA Mandatory Modified Playing Rules for details.
- If there are any suspensions in the game, but sure to follow the procedure outlined in the Woolwich Wild Team Staff Handbook available on our website. You have 24 hours to report the suspension.

Sharing goalie equipment

- At some levels, such as U9, the goalie equipment is shared between players who are rotating in the goalie position.
- The OWHA permits this provided the goalie equipment is sanitized between users and stored away for at least 3 days between use.

No goalie and Local League games

- The Kitchener Girls Local League (KGLL) has agreed that Playing Teams without a goalie may use a Hockey Shooter Tutor across their net.
- Goalies may also be shared within the Extended Group for that age level if there is a goalie(s) that is willing to play with a different centre. This can only be done within the centres and Playing Teams that are part of a particular Extended Group.

Bad Weather Policy

If the weather is bad, it is up to each team to decide whether or not to travel to the game. If the Head Coach decides the weather is too bad to travel to the game, please refer to the Woolwich Wild Team Staff Handbook for the process to be followed.