



ONTARIO HOCKEY FEDERATION

Summary Playing Regulations & Seasonal Calendars (2023-24)

The following resource is intended to provide a simplified overview of the noteworthy amendments made to, and key dates with the Playing Regulations for the 2023-24 season. In the event of inconsistency, the Playing Regulations take precedent. With the exception for the 2023 spring player evaluation period G4(a) is replaced by G4(b) for U11 and U13.

The below seasonal calendar summary applies to Minor Hockey, Female Hockey within the Ontario Women's Hockey Association may implement a modified seasonal calendar to best suit the needs of Female Hockey within the province.

GENERAL CHANGE

Change in terminology from Tryout to Player Evaluation

To align OHF definitions with that of the Hockey Canada Player Pathways.

Player Evaluation provides flexibility in the format that Associations' tier their Registered Participants. Whereas with Tryouts a player either makes the team or does not. Player Evaluations still allows and encourage Associations to tier players with like skill.

UNDER-7 & UNDER-9 SEASONAL CALENDAR

U7 – U9 Player Evaluations

Preparation Phase: May start September 5 (must be 6 days).

Player Evaluations: May start September 11 (must be 7 days).

Development Phase: May start September 18 (must be 14 days).

UNDER-11 & UNDER-13 SPRING PLAYER EVALUATION SEASONAL CALENDAR

Preparation Phase

AKA – non-Team Development Opportunities.

Start: may begin March 2.

End: must end April 23.

Requirements: Minimum of four (4) skill sessions must be provided by a Minor Hockey Association (or group of MHA's) to all Players. Players are not required to attend the preparation skates, attendance does not impact eligibility to attend Player Evaluations.

Eligibility: Refer to Playing Regulation G4(c).

Player Evaluations

AAA: April 24.

AA: May 1.

A & Below: May 8.

Note 1: All Players must have at least three (3) on-ice Player Evaluations prior to being released.

Playing Regulations: G4(a) & G4(d)

Note 2: Non Lake Ontario Region associations are permitted to implement fall Player Evaluations (AA and Below) in accordance with Playing Regulation G5.

Note 3: The NOHA is exempt from spring Player Evaluations.

Development Phase

Teams selected in the spring must run a twenty-seven (27) day Development Phase where teams may only practice and play a maximum of four (4) exhibition games or one Tournament.

Start: September 5.

End: October 1.

UNDER-15 & UNDER-18 SPRING PLAYER EVALUATION SEASONAL CALENDAR

Preparation Phase

AKA – non-Team Development Opportunities.

Start: may begin March 2.

End: must end April 23.

Requirements: Minimum of four (4) skill sessions must be provided by a Minor Hockey Association (or group of MHA's) to all Players. Players are not required to attend the preparation skates, attendance does not impact eligibility to attend Player Evaluations.

Eligibility: Refer to Playing Regulation G4(c).

Player Evaluations

AAA: April 24.

AA: May 1.

A & Below: May 8.

Note 1: All Players must have at least three (3) on-ice Player Evaluations prior to being released.

Playing Regulations: G4(b) & G4(d).

U18 AAA: Follow Playing Regulation K.

Note 2: Non Lake Ontario Region associations are permitted to implement fall Player Evaluations (AA and Below) in accordance with Playing Regulation G5.

Note 3: The NOHA is exempt from spring Player Evaluations.

Development Phase

Teams selected in the spring must run a twenty-seven (27) day Development Phase where teams may only practice and play a maximum of four (4) exhibition games or one Tournament.

Start: September 5.

End: October 1.

SPRING & SUMMER PROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITIES (U11, U13, U15, U18)

Spring Programming Opportunities

Associations permitted to operated skill development programming in team-based setting.

Start: May 15.

End: June 30.

Frequency: 1 or 2 times per week.

Note: Association must request/receive sanctioning through appropriate Member.

Summer Programming Opportunities

Associations and Members permitted to provide individual skills training or hockey schools that operate based on Regulation G4(b).

Start: August 11.

End: September 1.

Note: Association must request/receive sanctioning through appropriate Member.

Note: Team based team builders (no exhibition games week prior to Labour Day).

UNDER-11, UNDER-13, UNDER-15, UNDER 18 FALL PLAYER EVALUATION SEASONAL CALENDAR

Applies to Associations outside of the Lake Ontario Region that did not deliver spring Player Evaluations.

Dates listed are the earliest possible, Associations permitted to shift dates subject to internal needs while ensuring each of the identified Phases are accommodated.

Does not apply to Under-18 AAA.

Preparation Phase

AKA – non-Team Development Opportunities.

Start: may begin September 8.

Requirements: Requirements: Minimum of four (4) skill sessions must be provided by a Minor Hockey Association (or group of MHA's) to all Players. Players are not required to attend the preparation skates, attendance does not impact eligibility to attend Player Evaluations.

Player Evaluations

AA & Below: September 9.

Note: All Players must have at least three (3) on-ice Player Evaluations prior to being released.

Playing Regulations: G4(a) & G4(d).

Development Phase

Start: September 16.

Requirement: Must be a period of development time equal to the requirements of G5(a)(iii).

TOURNAMENTS

Tournaments for all Divisions and Categories (excluding U7/U9) permitted to start **September 22, 2023**.

REGULAR SEASON

The regular season for all Divisions and Categories permitted to start **October 2, 2023**.

CHAMPIONSHIPS

Central Region U18 AAA	April 8 – 14, 2024.
All-Ontario U15 AAA	April 17 – 21, 2024.
All-Ontario U13 AAA	April 17 – 21, 2024.
OHF Championships	April 19 – 21, 2024.

PREPARATION PHASE & PLAYER EVALUATION RESOURCES: ON-ICE

Hockey Canada has provided on-ice practice plans to support Associations in facilitating the Preparation Phase and Player Evaluations. Sessions are linked by age Division.

PREPARATION PHASE RESOURCES	PLAYER EVALUATION RESOURCES
Under-7 Preparation Practice Plans	No formal evaluation required – recommend repeating Prep Skates to tier like skilled players
Under-9 Preparation Practice Plans	Under-9 Player Evaluation Practice Plans
Under-11 Preparation Practice Plans	Under-11 Player Evaluation Practice Plans
Under-13 Preparation Practice Plans	Under-13 Player Evaluation Practice Plans
Under-15 Preparation Practice Plans Under-15 Checking Skills	Under-15 Player Evaluation Practice Plans
Under-18 Preparation Practice Plans	Under-18 Player Evaluation Practice Plans