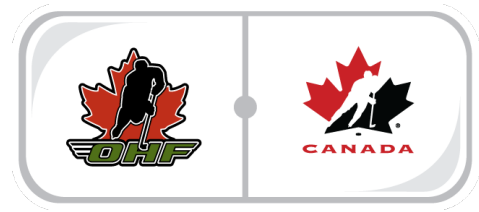


ONTARIO HOCKEY FEDERATION

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OHF Bulletin

To: OHF Directors, OHF Members, OHF Staff, OHF Senior Leadership Team, OHF Member Communication Staff
From: Jeff Stewart - Director of Programs and Events
Date: December 20, 2024
Re: 2025-26 Seasonal Calendar Key Dates
Bulletin ID: 24-053

The following resource is intended to provide a simplified overview of the key dates with the Playing Regulations for the 2025-26 season.

Playing Regulations and Seasonal Calendars for women and girls' hockey will follow the policies adopted by the Ontario Women's Hockey Association (OWHA).

The seasonal calendar summary below applies to Minor Hockey within the Minor Hockey Alliance of Ontario (ALLIANCE), Greater Toronto Hockey League (GTHL), Northern Ontario Hockey Association (NOHA), and the Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA).



REINFORCEMENT OF TERMINOLOGY CHANGE

Tryouts are referred to as Player Evaluations	To align OHF definitions with the Hockey Canada Player Pathways. Player Evaluations provide flexibility in the format that Associations' tier their Registered Participants. Tryouts confirm whether a player either makes or does not make a team. Player Evaluations enables Associations to tier players at similar skill levels.
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UNDER-7 & UNDER-9 SEASONAL CALENDAR

U7 – U9 Player Evaluations	Formal Bulletin on U7 and U9 Player Evaluations will be sent out in January.
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TEAM OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT DAY

Prohibitive Advertising Regulation	Associations can announce their Team Officials on or after February 15 for the 2025-2026 season.
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UNDER-11 & UNDER-13 SPRING PLAYER EVALUATION SEASONAL CALENDAR

Preparation Phase	Also Known As – non-Team Development Opportunities Start: may begin March 2 End: must end April 18 Requirements: Minimum of four (4) skill sessions must be provided by a Minor Hockey Association (or group of MHAs) 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 G2.
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Player Evaluations	AAA: April 19 – April 25 (7 days) AA: April 26 – May 2 (7 days) A & Below: May 3 – May 9 (7 days) Note 1: All Players may attend Player Evaluations with multiple Associations during each of the seven (7) day periods in accordance with Regulation G3. Note 2: Associations may conduct fall Player Evaluations at AA and Below in accordance with Playing Regulation G4.
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Development Phase

Teams selected in the spring must run a twenty-seven (27) day Development Phase.

Start: September 2

End: September 28

Note 1: For the Divisions of U11 and above following Labour Day Monday there is a twenty-seven (27) day Development Phase where teams may only practice and play a maximum of four (4) exhibition games or two (2) exhibition games and one Tournament in accordance with G3(i) ii, and two (2) practices for every one (1) game.

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

Preparation Phase

Also Known As – non-Team Development Opportunities.

Start: may begin March 2

End: must end April 20

Requirements: Minimum of four (4) skill sessions must be provided by a Minor Hockey Association (or group of MHAs) 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 G2.

Player Evaluations

AAA: April 21 – April 27 (7 days)

AA: April 28 – May 4 (7 days)

A & Below: May 5 – May 11 (7 days)

Note 1: All Players may attend Player Evaluations with multiple Associations during each of the seven (7) day periods in accordance with Regulation G3.

Note 2: Associations may conduct fall Player Evaluations at AA and Below in accordance with Playing Regulation G4.

Development Phase

Teams selected in the spring must run a twenty-seven (27) day Development Phase.

Start: September 2

End: September 28

Note 1: For the Divisions of U11 and above following Labour Day Monday there is a twenty-seven (27) day Development Phase where teams may only practice and play a maximum of four (4) exhibition games or two (2) exhibition



games and one Tournament in accordance with G3(i) ii, and two (2) practices for every one (1) game.

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

Spring Programming Opportunities

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

Start: May 12

End: June 30

Frequency: 1 or 2 times per week

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

Summer Programming Opportunities

Associations and Members permitted to provide individual skills training or hockey schools that operate based on Regulation G3(g) and reference chart.

Start: August 11

End: August 29

Note 1: Association must request/receive sanctioning through appropriate Member process.

Note 2: Team building programming allowed (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 are 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

Also Known As – non-Team Development Opportunities.

Start: may begin September 2

Requirements: Requirements: Minimum of four (4) skill sessions must be provided by a Minor Hockey Association (or group of MHAs) 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 6

Note 1: All Players may attend Player Evaluations with multiple Associations during each of the seven (7) day periods in accordance with Regulation G4.

Development Phase

Start: September 13

Requirement: Must be a period of development time equal to the requirements of G4(a)(iii).

TOURNAMENTS

Tournaments for all Divisions and Categories (excluding U7/U9) permitted to start **September 19, 2025**.

REGULAR SEASON

The regular season for all Divisions and Categories permitted to start **September 29, 2025**.

CHAMPIONSHIPS

Central Region U18 AAA	March 30 – April 5, 2026
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All-Ontario U15 AAA	April 8-12, 2026
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All-Ontario U13 AAA	April 8-12, 2026
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OHF Championships	April 17-19, 2026
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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.

[Player Evaluation and Selection Overview](#)

AGE CATEGORY	PREPARATION PHASE	PLAYER EVALUATION
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U7	Preparation Practice Plans	No evaluation required. Recommendation: repeat Prep Skates to tier players at similar skill levels.
U9	Preparation Practice Plans	Player Evaluation Practice Plans
U11	Preparation Practice Plans	Player Evaluation Practice Plans
U13	Preparation Practice Plans	Player Evaluation Practice Plans
U15	Preparation Practice Plans Checking Skills	Player Evaluation Practice Plans
U18	Preparation Practice Plans	Player Evaluation Practice Plans

Important Links

- [OHF Playing Regulations, Regulations and By-Laws](#)
- [OHF Player Movement Overview](#)
- [OHF Player Movement: Frequently Asked Questions](#)