

ATOM DEVELOPMENT Guidelines

Established: April 13, 1999

Amended: December 7, 2017

1. Program Description

- a. The Atom Development program is designed for players, age 9 and 10, who have the desire and ability to play at a more competitive level. The objectives of the program are aimed at achieving a degree of excellence according to a player's interest and potential, providing an opportunity for achievement in an enjoyable and self-fulfilling environment, and to stimulate development both from an individual and overall sport point of view, potentially developing skills to progress to the Rep. Program.
- b. The Atom Development program is considered to be a transition between Novice and Rep. Hockey and is part of PMHA's Recreation League.

2. General Guidelines

- a. Number of Teams: in accordance with the terms established within the league, PMHA will field two Atom Development teams providing the overall registration of 9 and 10 year olds is not less than approximately 30% of Atom Registration per season;
- b. League: teams will participate in league play within OMAHA;
- c. Teams: 15 skaters plus 2 goalies shall be selected per team. Any variation to be sanctioned by the Executive.
- d. Age: the Atom Development Program is open to 9 and 10 year olds;
- e. Ice: two-shared evening practices and one morning not shared alternating weeks per team.
- f. Fair Play Code: The fair play code is in effect with the Atom Development program - no fixed power play or penalty killing units in league game situations until the last five minutes of a game. Development of all players is paramount over winning;
- g. Tournaments: To keep the program affordable, PMHA recommends that the maximum number of tournaments be limited to four per season, however, additional tournaments are allowed if agreed to by all parents on the team. Teams to enter Atom Development, or equivalent level, tournaments only;
- h. Sponsorship: Team Management is responsible for maintaining verbal or written contact with the team's sponsor and providing press coverage of the team's activities using the sponsors name;
- i. Fund Raising: Team Management is responsible for ensuring that all fund raising activities are planned within PMHA Guidelines. See Fund Raising Guidelines.

3. Selection of Head Coaches and Support

- a. Applicants for the position of Head Coach shall apply using the PMHA coaching position application form, to be forwarded to the PMHA Coaching Coordinator;
- b. The Coaching Coordinator shall evaluate applications in consultation with the Division Director and make recommendations to the Selection Committee of the PMHA Executive. Head Coaching positions shall be approved by all Executive Members of PMHA;
- c. Where Head Coach applicants are of equal ability and stature and one is not a parent of a player on the team in respect of which the coaching position is applied for, preference may be given to the non-parent applicant over a coach of equal ability and stature who has a child on that team;
- d. Head Coaches have the authority to recommend their own support positions after team selections which shall include Assistant Coach(s), Team Manager and Certified Team Trainer to coach coordinator;
- e. Head Coaches are required to successfully undertake BCAHA's approved coaching development and certification programs. Team officials are subject to a criminal record check.

4. Try-Outs and Player Selection

- a. The Atom Development team(s) is restricted to Atom aged players only. Any appropriately aged player may try out for the program.
- b. Atom Development team tryout procedure as per addendum 1 of this guideline.
- c. Players are to be assigned to teams using a drafting process conducted in a manner which includes the Atom Development Head Coaches, and PMHA Atom Division Director. Every attempt shall be made to ensure that the two teams are equally balanced.
- d. Selection of players will be on the basis of talent and ability and that evaluations won't discriminate on any ground prohibited under the B.C. Human Rights Code.
- e. Recreation players are allowed to go up to development teams to practice as long as approved by affected coach(es).
 - a. An annual fee of \$25.00 is to be collected from Recreation players participating in any, on ice activity. Cheques are to be payable to the specific team the player is affiliated to.
- f. Affiliations are to be reviewed by the President, Coach Coordinator &/or designate and the affected Director(s).
 - a. A team official of a higher category team may not use, communicate, or solicit a player of a lower division team or affiliated player prior to receiving consent from a team official with which the affected player is registered. The Division Director of the effected player is to be notified of such player request.

PMHA Atom tryout procedures

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- a. All participants will have 5 ice sessions allocated. PMHA will not provide additional ice due to injury or illness.
- b. The Division Director will be responsible to notify all participants to inform them of their 1st ice time.
- c. The Division Director will have a hand out for the first ice time to give all participants their first 5 ice slots and information to parents. The Division Director will also host a parent information session before the second ice session.
- d. Coaches and evaluators will use PMHA approved forms and procedures to evaluate players.
- e. Team selection interviews will be held within 24 hours of the last ice session. Each player will be given an interview time, which will be done alphabetically. Then will be advised of their appointed team Final group will carry approximately 30 skaters and 4 goalies. (See Atom development policy). Remaining players will be placed into the Atom recreation program.
- f. ALL PLAYERS SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THEY ARE NOT ASSURED OF BEING ON THE SELECTED TEAMS. All placements are subject to additions and reassignments as per PMHA, BCAHA. and OMAHA rules.
- g. Any late registrant that wishes to participate in the evaluation procedure may do so by contacting the division director.
- h. A player registering after the evaluation sessions are complete must be placed on a recreation team roster. They must be assigned to, and report to, a recreation league team for a minimum of two (2) ice times, at least one (1) of which must be a game, before being allowed to be asked by the Division Director to tryout or participate with a Development team.
- i. A registered player not participating in the evaluation process may be invited to a selected team by the coach of a team through the division director.
- j. All player movements throughout the season must go through the Division Director

Addendum 1