

Girls Hockey Calgary Association (GHC)

2018/19

**GHC PILOT LEAGUE: ALL FEMALE DIVISIONS
(AFD) IN HOCKEY CALGARY**

SURVEY RESULTS

*Girls Hockey Calgary Association (GHC)
299 Erin Woods Drive SE
Calgary, AB
T2B 2V9*

girlshockeycalgary.com

Rationale:

In 2016 GHC began the process of reviewing our league structure. GHC recognized that as an association we were increasingly having opposed views and needs to the RMFHL, which housed the majority of its teams. The GHC Board initially formed a task group to look at the Atom division which at the time was not tiered. The task group compiled best practices and league structure information from a dozen urban female hockey leagues across Canada, trying to establish the optimal model. What was found was that having tiered hockey at all levels was imperative to development. During this review GHC was advised that if we tried to remove any age groups from the RMFHL the entire association would have to leave, and it became apparent that the structure of the league's divisions needed to be looked at from a wholistic point of view versus individual age groups as in most cases we were being forced to sacrifice the development of the younger age groups to ensure the older ones could remain.

After 2 years of strategizing and planning the board of GHC had established a league structure under Hockey Calgary League that met the needs of the association and also allowed for continued growth and flexibility. In 2018 GHC removed all its teams from the RMFHL, and the GHC league structure pilot under Hockey Calgary League was unveiled.

Goals of Pilot League:

1. Decrease Travel
2. Increase Competitive Balance within League
3. Enhance Operational Functioning of the League
 - a. Scheduling stability: publish schedules clearly and in advance so families can plan
 - b. Ice usage: maximize ice usage by intentionally creating a balance between practice and game play
 - c. Governance: follow clear and transparent rules and processes
 - d. Goaltending: reduced disruption in divisions without sufficient goalies

Structure for 2018-19 season

After two years of careful consideration, research, planning, and discussions with and approval by Hockey Calgary, Girls Hockey Calgary has made the strategic decision to move all our remaining community teams under the Hockey Calgary League umbrella effective for the 2018/19 season.

Timbits

- Will follow the Hockey Calgary Timbits Program
- Any changes will mirror the Hockey Calgary changes for this division

Novice

- Major changes are coming to this division next season as Hockey Canada has mandated all Novice hockey goes to 1/2 ice option for the 2019-20 season
- GHC will be following the Hockey Calgary Novice Development League model which is adapting to a 1/2 ice option for the 2018/2019 season
- GHC teams will consist of mixed age teams of 2010/11 born girls and we will be playing in the 1/2 ice league structure for the 2018-19 season
- For more information about Novice structure changes please refer to the Hockey Calgary announcement www.hockeycalgary.ca/news/view/article/620

Atom

- GHC will be changing this division slightly next season as we will have A & B level teams in this division, with player placement in either level based on evaluation results
- A teams will participate in the Hockey Calgary League, and play against teams from other Hockey Calgary associations
- The B teams will participate in an all-female GHC league where we play only against other female teams in an all Calgary League
- A teams will be tiered where applicable through the evaluation process. These teams will not be equalized and will follow the HC league structure.
- B teams will be equalized teams playing against each other in a GHC all female Atom B League
- Team numbers in each division will follow the team formation grid (see team formation grid)
- Registration option of only playing in the all-female league will be available

Peewee

- GHC will be changing this division slightly next season - we will still have A & B level teams in this division but participating in different leagues. Player placement in either level will be based on evaluation results
- A teams will participate in the Hockey Calgary League, and play against teams from other Hockey Calgary associations.
- B teams will be equalized teams playing against each other in an all-female GHC Peewee B League
- Team numbers in each division will follow the team formation grid (see team formation grid)
- Registration option of only playing in the all-female league will be available

Bantam

- Changes to this division next season are all based around league structure. GHC will still have A & B level teams in this division next season. Player placement in either level will be based on evaluation results.
- A level teams will play in the all-female GHC Calgary Midget A League. Teams will be equalized in nature and composition will be Bantam aged girls only – not mixed with Midget aged girls.
- B level teams will be equalized teams playing against each other in an all-female GHC Calgary Bantam B League
- Team numbers in each division will follow the team formation grid (see team formation grid)

Midget

- Changes to this division next season are all based around league structure. GHC will still have A & B level teams in this division next season. Player placement in either level based on evaluation results.
- A level teams will play in the all-female GHC Calgary Midget A League. Midget A and Bantam A teams will play against each other. Teams will be equalized in nature and composition will be made up of Midget aged girls only – not mixed with Bantams
- B level teams will be equalized teams and play against each other in an all-female GHC Midget B Calgary League
- Team numbers in each division will follow the team formation grid (see team formation grid)

Outcomes

The year-end survey results was analyzed in detail to determine whether the goals of the Pilot League were met. This valuable information can be used by the Board of Directors to determine the areas that were successful and where future changes can be made.

The survey had 261 respondents. Of that total, 197 were parents (75.5%), 53 coaches (20.3%) and 11 players (4.2%).

The analysis of the survey respondents was also broken down by division as follows:

Timbits Jr – 10

Timbits Sr - 14

Novice 1 – 21

Novice 2 – 19

Novice 3 -14

Atom 1 – 19

Atom 2 – 17

Atom 3 - 45

Pewee A – 17

Pewee B – 25

Bantam A - 16

Bantam B - 41

Midget A - 14

Midget B - 22

Goal #1: Reduce the amount of travel

82% of the families responded that they were satisfied or very satisfied with the amount of travel in 2018/2019 season. 88.2% of the coaches that responded were satisfied or very satisfied with the amount of travel. The following is the breakdown of respondents being satisfied or very satisfied by division:

Timbits Jr – 25% (75% responded N/A)

Timbits Sr – 92.9%

Novice 1 – 76.2%
Novice 2- 68.4%
Novice 3- 90.9%
Atom 1 – 100%
Atom 2 – 94.1%
Atom 3 – 71.1%
Peewee A- 58.8%
Peewee B – 84%
Bantam A – 80%
Bantam B – 97.6%
Midget A – 84.6%
Midget B – 76.3%

Goal #2: Increase Competitive Balance Within the Leagues

Equal competition

69.80% of families were satisfied or very satisfied with the equality of competition within their daughters division. 76.47% of the coaches that responded were satisfied or very satisfied with the equality of competition within their division. The following is the breakdown of respondents being satisfied or very satisfied by division:

Timbits Jr.- 12.5% (75% responded N/A)
Timbits Sr. – 57.2%
Novice 1 – 38.09%
Novice 2-73.70%
Novice 3-72.7%
Atom 1 – 100%
Atom 2 – 76.5%
Atom 3 – 67.3%
Peewee 1 – 94.1%
Peewee B – 72%
Bantam A – 93.3%
Bantam B – 68.3%
Midget A – 54%
Midget B – 68.2%

Ability for team to compete

73.2 % of families were satisfied or very satisfied with the ability for their team to compete within their league. 80.4% of coaches were satisfied or very satisfied with their team's ability to compete. The following is the breakdown of respondents being satisfied or very satisfied by division:

Timbits Jr. – 14.3% (71.4% responded N/A)

Timbits Sr. – 50% (28.6% responded N/A)

Novice 1 – 38.1% (4.76 responded n/a)

Novice 2- 84.2%

Novice 3- 73%

Atom 1 – 100%

Atom 2 – 82.4%

Atom 3 – 68.9%

Peewee1 – 100%

Peewee B – 80%

Bantam A – 73.3%

Bantam B – 80.5%

Midget A – 53.9%

Midget B – 82.8%

Friend Requests for All-Female B Divisions:

66.6% of the families responded that a single friend request should be allowed in the All-Female B Divisions. Of these families, 52 were coaches and 67.3% of them agreed that a single friend request should be allowed. Analysis of this is that the majority of families think that there is a social importance for girls to have a friend on the team and it can help with possible carpool issues for families. Parents think this element outweighs the potential imbalance of teams. The following is the breakdown of this by division:

Timbit Jr. – 66.7%

Timbit Sr. – 78.6%

Novice 1- 76.2%

Novice 2- 52.6%

Novice 3- 71.4%

Atom 1 – 68.4%

Atom 2 – 52.9%

Atom 3 – 66.7%

Peewee 1 – 58.8%

Peewee B – 48%
Bantam A – 87.5%
Bantam B – 51.2%
Midget A – 85.7%
Midget B – 81.8%

Goal #3: Clear and Transparent League Rules and Processes

Communication from league

82.4% of families were satisfied or very satisfied with the communication from the league regarding game schedules and announcements, and felt that processes were clear and easily accessible. 86.3% of the coaches that responded were satisfied or very satisfied with this communication. The following is the breakdown of respondents being satisfied or very satisfied by division:

Timbit Jr. – 12.5% (62.5% responded N/A)
Timbit Sr. – 64.3 (21.4% responded N/A)
Novice 1-66.7%
Novice 2 –79%
Novice 3- 72.7%
Atom 1 – 100%
Atom 2 – 88.2%
Atom 3 – 93.3%
Peewee 1 – 100%
Peewee B – 84%
Bantam A – 79.7% (13% responded N/A)
Bantam B – 87.8%
Midget A – 92.3%
Midget B – 81.8%

Clear League Expectations

79.2% of families were satisfied or very satisfied that there was clear league expectations set for each team. This includes website requirements, scheduling windows, game reporting processes, awareness of rules and league protocols. 84.3% of the coaches that responded were satisfied or very satisfied with this. The following is the breakdown of respondents being satisfied or very satisfied by division:

Timbit Jr. – 12.5% (75% responded N/A)

Timbit Sr. – 57.1% (21.4% responded N/A)

Novice 1- 71.4%

Novice 2-89.5%

Novice 3- 72.7%

Atom 1 – 84.2% (11% were N/A)

Atom 2 – 88.2%

Atom 3 – 91.1%

Peewee 1 – 94.1%

Peewee B – 80%

Bantam A – 73.3% (20% responded N/A)

Bantam B – 82.9%

Midget A – 84.6%

Midget B – 82%

Optimal Ice Usage

The Ice scheduler felt that the move to Hockey Calgary was very successful in terms of organization and appropriate release of schedules for the teams which helps achieve optimal ice usage.

Organized league dates allowed parents not to be subject to schedule changes.

Schedules were released in a pre-season, round 1 and round 2 format.

Schedules were released to the associations for review and posted on the Hockey Calgary site in a timely manner.