



August 31, 2022

## Hello U9 Hockey Players & Parents!

We would like to welcome you back and thank you for choosing Girls Hockey Calgary as your home for the 2022-23 season. We are looking forward to what we hope to be another year of growth and success for all of our GHC members. Please review this letter and our Evaluations Handbook available online, which provides more information about what to expect in the coming weeks.

### U9 Pathway and Evaluation Dates

Session	Dates	Components
Pathway Skates (Optional)	Sept 6-9, 2022	Stations & Games
Eval #1	Sept 11, 2022	Skill Assessment
Eval #2	Sept 17, 2022	Small Area Games & Scrimmage (Half Ice 4x4)
Eval #3	Sept 18, 2022	Skill Assessment & Small Area Games
Eval #4	Sept 19 & 21, 2022	Scrimmage (Half Ice 4x4)

Groupings for the first skate will be published Sept 5, 2022. Pathway sign-up as well as times, locations and drills can be found at [www.girlshockeycalgary.com/evaluations](http://www.girlshockeycalgary.com/evaluations).

### Important Updates for 2022-23

- 1. Removing "Time Trials" as first evaluation session**  
Players' first skate will consist of a variety of skill assessment stations and will no longer feature timed drills. (Players will be assessed on skating, stick skills, compete, etc)
- 2. Changes to initial player placement**  
Players' initial groupings are no longer alphabetical and are based on **prior season's division** for the purpose of the first skate only. (Prior season's division and/or coach evaluation does not influence player movement throughout evaluation process.) Appropriate considerations are made for players who are brand new to hockey or who have joined from another association so that they begin evaluations in the appropriate skill group.
- 3. Improved format to showcase and assess skill**  
All age groups will have four evaluation sessions that will incorporate skill stations, small area games (SAG) and scrimmages.
- 4. Later start to the evaluation process**  
Community Prep Camps and Evaluations will not start until after the September long weekend to alleviate stress and avoid an abrupt end of summer for our families!

### Jr. Inferno Community Girls Hockey Calgary Association (GHC)

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### Friendly Reminders

- Should you be unable to make an evaluation session, please let your Age Group Coordinator ([U9coordinator@girlshockeycalgary.com](mailto:U9coordinator@girlshockeycalgary.com)) know at your earliest convenience.
- Please check in at the Welcome Table before each ice time. Players will receive a helmet sticker which is to remain on their helmet for the duration of the evaluation process. Please note that the ID numbers are randomly assigned to the registration list. The ID number in no way suggests where a player is ranked within an age group.
- It is important that players are dressed and ready 10 minutes prior to their ice time.
- Due to the number of participants, players will not be accepted if they show up to the wrong session time. We are placing many players; therefore, we cannot change ice times due to scheduling conflicts, etc.
- All parents must sit in the spectator area. No parents are allowed on the benches.
- At the discretion of the Evaluations Committee, if any member is violating the fair play pledge and/or putting other players at risk, they will be removed from the session and potentially face further consequences.
- Please ensure GHC has your correct email to receive all evaluations communication.
- As you can see by the evaluation schedule, there is very little time between sessions. In some cases, players will be skating on back-to-back days. Please know that the Evaluations Committee will be working around the clock to collect and manage scores and groupings. We will publish groupings with as much advance as possible and appreciate your patience.

### Volunteers Needed

Another year of growth means another significant increase in the depth and breadth of our activities. Evaluations is a HUGE commitment and we need everyone involved. Please commit to as many shifts as possible to help make our process a success: [www.girlshockeycalgary.com/volunteer](http://www.girlshockeycalgary.com/volunteer)

Our ultimate intention is to ensure that all players are placed on the appropriate team to allow for maximum skill development and maximum enjoyment. We want every player to have the opportunity to contribute to their team on and off the ice resulting in a positive hockey experience.

Remember: Play safe, work hard and have fun!

See you at the rink!

Thank you,

**Stu Bridle**  
VP of Operations GHC

**Jr. Inferno Community**  
**Girls Hockey Calgary Association (GHC)**

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