



U8 Prep and Evaluation Phase for Advanced Hockey Program (Tiered level)

The U8 tiered level program is offered to those players who wish to play a more advanced level of hockey. Following the Hockey Canada/OMHA guidelines for the pathway program to representative hockey, HHMH invites all U8 players 7 years of age who would like a more advanced level of hockey to participate in the upcoming 2022-23 season prep (development) and evaluation phase starting the week of September 6th! The schedule can be found under the **tryout menu** on the Halton Hills Minor Hockey website.

All players who wish to participate in the U8 prep and evaluation phase for the tiered level hockey program are required to be registered and purchase a tryout card to attend the prep and evaluations (tryouts). Registration information can be found on the HHMH website www.haltonhillsmminorhockey.com

What is the prep phase?

As per Hockey Canada, all players who plan to attend evaluations (tryouts) for tiered level travel hockey (pre-representative hockey) have the opportunity to attend 4 development sessions prior to the evaluation phase.

- The prep phase consists of (4) development sessions that is geared towards working on the player's individual hockey skills; skating, agility, balance, passing, puck control, small area games...
- Drills will be set up in stations geared to focus on individual player skills.
- Players will not be assessed for teams during the evaluations sessions.
- HHMH's development team will be working with the coaches that have applied for the U8 age group to organize and set up the drills for each session. The coaches will be on the ice running the development sessions.

Is it a requirement that all players attend the 4 development session in order to participate in the evaluations?

- The development sessions are optional but recommended and are included in the price of the tryout card. All tryout cards are a set price to include the 4 sessions and evaluations (no adjustments to the price will be given). Players who do not attend the development sessions are still able to attend the evaluations.
- All sessions will start the week of September 6th and are followed by evaluation (tryouts). The schedule can be found under the Tryout menu/Tryout schedule.

What are evaluation tryouts?

- Evaluation tryouts are an opportunity for players to display their hockey abilities.
- Each player will be individually evaluated and selected to teams accordingly, based on level of ability and skill.
- Head Coaches and team staff will be selected during the evaluation phase of the tryouts. HHMH will have a team of evaluators to help through this process. Once coaches and team staff are selected, they will become part of the player evaluation process.
- Evaluations will begin following the prep phase (development).
- All evaluation sessions will be organized and run by independent development Instructors.
- Players will be grouped with like-ability players to allow for maximum growth. Players will not be cut, they will be moved to the level of their ability (Tier 1, 2, recreational house-league)



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What to expect following the evaluations?

- Players will be advised as to which evaluation skate they are to continue with/or move to following each evaluation session via website.
- Each player will receive a tracking number that they will reference on the website following each evaluation.
- Information will be advised on this system as to where the player has placed/details how to access the site will be provided at the evaluations.
- Tracking numbers will be issued at the start of the evaluations.

Season Structure:

- HHMH plans to have 2 tiered level teams (pending registration), teams will be formed based on evaluations of players from the tryouts.
- Teams will have a max of 18 players per team.
- This will allow for four lines and two goaltenders.
- Hockey Canada recommends that goaltenders are rotated to play out for development purposes.
- There will be a development stage following evaluations prior to regular season.
- Teams will practice 2 times per week starting October (on-ice development with a hired certified hockey instructor for a total of 8 sessions supplied by HHMH, coaches may increase the amount of sessions at a team level).
- Regular season will begin in November ending in March.
- U8 – games are modified, half ice (full season) [see link at bottom to read the benefits to having a modified ice program].
- 1 game per week, travel is expected to be minimal.
- 1 off-ice training session/per week (total of 8 sessions) at Flash Athletic Academy in Georgetown.
- 2 to 3 tournament style festivals – Approx. 1 away hotel stay

What are HHMH's program goals for U8?

- Have fun, become active, learn hockey fundamentals, team work, and fair play, develop and refine hockey skills.
- Become part of a team and make memories!

**All dates and details listed above are subject to change.*