



Waterloo Region Ball Hockey Association

SWO Ball Hockey



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Fall 2010 Edition

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1 Program Times and Dates

1.1 When and for how long does the program run?

The Fall 2010 season begins mid-September. The season ends in early December (10 weeks).

1.2 When is the first game of the season and how will we be notified?

Each child will be phoned by their respective coach during the week leading up to opening weekend (mid-September), if not earlier. At the first game of the season, parents and players will receive their parent/player package containing team jersey, schedules, roster, arena maps, and other vital information pertaining to their child's 2010 SWO Ball Hockey program.

1.3 When does the Fall 2010 program registration end?

Guaranteed program registration deadline is **September 3, 2010**. Spots in the 2010 Fall program are not guaranteed after September 3, 2010, and there is a \$25.00 late fee for registrations received after this date. Register early to avoid disappointment; we are expecting the program to fill-up prior to the deadline.

1.4 What are the days of the week and the times of the games?

Program games can be played on some Friday nights, all day Saturday, and on Sundays for the older age groups. Schedules depend on final registration numbers, community events, gymnasium availability, and championship weekend play. All games are one (1) hour long. Exact times of games will not be available until the start of season. Schedules are established only at the close of registration.

The following chart provides general break down of game times for different divisions.

Division	General Game Times		
	Fridays	Saturdays	Sundays
Sprout	N/A	8am and into noon	N/A
Squirt	N/A	mainly 8am and into noon	N/A
Tyke	N/A	mainly 10am and into early afternoon	N/A
Novice	Sometimes 6pm, 7pm	mainly 12pm and into early afternoon	N/A
Atom	Sometimes 6pm, 7pm	mainly 3pm and into mid-afternoon	N/A
Peewee	Sometimes 6pm, 7pm, 8pm	mainly 5pm and into early evening	N/A
Bantam	Sometimes 6pm, 7pm, 9pm	typically 12pm – 4pm, or 7pm to 9pm	Sometimes in the afternoon
Midget	Sometimes 6pm, 7pm, 9pm	typically 12pm – 4pm, or 7pm to 9pm	Sometimes in the afternoon



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2 Program Locations

2.1 Where are the games played?

WRBHA primarily uses the Scholars' Hall gymnasium for our Fall and Winter programs. For the older age groups, (Bantam/Midget) we use Seagram Gym (Wilfrid Laurier's University Stadium).

3 Experience






3.1 My child has never played ball hockey/ice hockey before; is this program suitable for a child with no prior experience?

Yes! The SWO Ball Hockey program is designed to suit children at all levels of experience and skill. A large percentage of the SWO Ball Hockey membership are children with limited and no ice hockey or ball hockey experience.

4 Equipment

4.1 What kind of equipment do you provide? What equipment do I need to provide for my child?

For our Fall program, we provide each registered player with a team jersey. Each team is also provided with a full set of goalie equipment, permitting each child to try their hand at goaltending (if they desire).

MANDATORY EQUIPMENT		
1	<p><u>For players:</u> Hockey helmet with full facial protection</p> <p>Note: both facemask and helmet must have CSA sticker. </p>	
	<p><u>For goaltenders:</u> Goaltenders can either wear player helmet/facemask (as above) or a Goalie mask</p> <p>Note: goalie mask must have CSA sticker. </p> <p>*** Street hockey goalie masks ARE NOT PERMITTED ***</p>	
2	<p>Hockey gloves</p> <p>Note: any type of gloves not designed for ice hockey use (i.e. lacrosse) are forbidden.</p>	







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<p>3 Hockey stick</p> <p>Note: both wood or composite are accepted. Push-on plastic blades are not acceptable.</p>	
<p>4 Athletic support (jock or jill)</p>	
<p>5 Soccer style shin guards</p> <p>Note: It is mandatory for shin guards to be completely covered by socks</p> <p>Note: Ice hockey shin guards are not permitted</p>	
<p>6 Running shoes</p>	

4.2 Is there any additional equipment that is acceptable and recommended?

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT	
<p>1 Mouth guard</p>	
<p>2 Soft elbow pads</p> <p>Note: Hard ice hockey elbow pads are not permitted. Elbow pads must be covered by jersey.</p>	



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3 Knee pads (soft)



4.3 Is there banned and prohibited equipment?

The following equipment is **prohibited**:

- Shoulder pads
- Hockey-style hard elbow pads
- Hockey-style shin guards
- Any type of gloves that are not ice hockey gloves (e.g. lacrosse gloves)

4.4 What type of hockey stick do you require?

A wooden or composite hockey stick is what you should look to use. Plastic bladed sticks where the blade is pushed on to the shaft are not allowed for safety reasons. Any plastic blade must be molded on and NOT screwed on.

5 Registration

5.1 How can I register my child(ren) in the SWO Ball Hockey program?

- **NEW FOR FALL 2010: ONLINE REGISTRATION!** Easy online registration will be available in August 2010.
- Visit the Waterloo SWO Ball Hockey office. See website for location and hours.

5.2 What is your cancellation policy?

To obtain a refund, you must submit in writing the "Request for Cancellation" form to our office. To obtain the form, please mail wrbha@swoballhockey.com. The form will require you to specify:

- your name and the name of your child
- the division in which your child is registered (Sprout, Squirt, Tyke, Novice, Atom, Peewee, Bantam, Midget)
- your child's team (if he or she has already been assigned to a team)
- your phone number, email address, and mailing address
- your reason for requesting a refund

Please allow 4 to 5 weeks for refund processing.

5.3 Will any charges be applied for my refund?

This chart shows the details on refund charges:



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Prior to Registration Deadline	Before first game of season	After <u>first</u> game of season	After <u>fourth</u> game of season
entry fee - \$45 admin fee *(100% registration fee is transferable to future programs)	entry fee - \$45 admin fee - uniform fee *(admin fee waved if transferring refund to future programs)	entry fee - \$45 admin fee - uniform fee - \$10 /games played up to cancellation request *(admin fee waved if transferring refund to future programs)	No refund available after this period. Refund request will not be accepted.

Note: uniform fee is \$45.00 (squirt and older divisions), \$20.00 (sprout division)

5.4 Can I sign up my child(ren) to play on the same team as a friend?

Yes. Although no guarantees can be made for a request to play together, nearly every request to play with **1** (one) friend is honoured when the proper request procedure is followed by both participants. You must fill out the **Request to Play Together** section on the registration form. **The friend must also complete this section with your child's name to be matched up on the same team.** Requests for more than one friend are deemed invalid and will not be honoured.

5.5 What if I am in a special situation where I need to have more than 2 children play together (for example, what if I need to carpool from out of town, have siblings, etc?)

If special circumstances require that your child play together with more than one other child, you must email wrbha@swoballhockey.com to request an official **Special Request to Play Together** form.

6 Volunteering/Working with WRBHA

6.1 How do I become a coach?

Go to our website (wrbha.swoballhockey.com) and click on the **Coaches Centre** link to download information.

6.2 How do I become a paid SWO referee?

Go to our parent association's website at www.swoballhockey.com and choose Association Programs menu to navigate to the Referee information page.

6.3 I have heard wonderful things about the SWO Ball Hockey program and would like to help on one or more volunteer committees. Who do I contact to join the SWO Ball Hockey family of volunteers?

Contact any one of the WRBHA Board Members who can guide you to the appropriate committee head contact. Board members can be found here: <http://swoballhockey.com/league/wrbha/index.php?content=directors>



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7 Sponsoring the children of WRBHA

7.1 *What are the benefits of sponsoring the WRBHA program?*

- Free registration for a child of your choice (higher sponsorship levels include more than 1 (one) free registration)
- Your company's logo on a team jersey (artwork is your responsibility)
- Your company's logo in the parent manuals (distributed to every family in the league), and on our website
- The satisfaction of providing a fun and safe environment for the children of our region
- Tax deductible contribution to your community

7.2 *How do I sponsor a team? What are the different levels of sponsorship?*

Sponsorships are administrated in the **Spring** each year. Your sponsorship begins with the Spring program, and carries through the subsequent Fall and Winter programs. Go to wrbha.swoballhockey.com and click on Sponsorship menu to find out everything you need to know on this subject. You can also pick up a Sponsorship Booklet at our office or email swobha@swoballhockey.com to request more information.

8 About Waterloo Region Ball Hockey Association

8.1 *Is Waterloo Region Ball Hockey Association (WRBHA) a not-for-profit organization?*

Yes. The WRBHA is not-for-profit organization with a constitution and a board of directors. The WRBHA is a proud member of the SWO Ball Hockey Association (SWOBHA), our governing body for the sport of ball hockey.

8.2 *What benefits does membership with SWOBHA provide?*

- insurance
- coaches, referee, and timekeeper clinics
- in-house tournaments
- league website
- promotion of sport
- governing body
- equipment and office services
- certified referees and timekeepers

8.3 *What separates the WRBHA group and it's program from other ball hockey/sport programs?*

The WRBHA is a true community group. The league has volunteers and directors from your community, and operate in support of the community. Some examples of the group's support of the community include:

- We buy locally for all of our services and products (i.e. insurance, equipment, uniforms, printing, computer services, etc.)



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- We directly sponsor community groups, children, and events. Local programs we provide funding to include: local ice hockey associations, local fundraising for various health research, community youth groups
- Employment of community members (i.e. referees, timekeepers, administrative staff, etc)

Be sure to ask how your youth sports group supports the community we all call home!

WRBHA and the SWO Ball Hockey program offers all of the following:

- Local office open 2:00pm to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday to serve you
- Year-round offerings of programs for you and your children (fall, winter, spring/summer)
- Uniform sizing for early registrants
- Weekly updated stats on league websites so that you and your child can be aware of and celebrate your child's progress (and share that information with your friends and families!)
- Game results available in local newspaper for WRBHA participants. Check The Record on Wednesdays on Local Sports section for scores and results from the week prior!!!
- We employ the Police Check program with all our volunteers and coaches to help ensure your child is safe and in good hands at all times. We are very strict in this policy and take your child's safety very seriously.
- Our program is built on the idea to be inclusive, so we encourage boys, girls, and special needs children to all participate together in a team environment. Further, we offer a house league regional tournament for all house league teams (novice and older age groups), not just to all-star players
- We offer a program for children aged 2 and up. If you can run and hold a hockey stick, you can play SWO Ball Hockey!
- We offer a high quality 3 tone dazzle jersey with superior screening. The uniform we supply will not only look as good on the final day as the first, but will be with your son or daughter for years to come, as long as they don't outgrow it!
- SWO Ball Hockey has a referee and timekeeper program that develops inexperienced officials. We combine the talents of experienced officials with new officials to provide a safe and fair environment for all teams.
- We support our coaches and volunteers. Coaches receive a Coaches' Clinic to help train them for the important job as a positive role model for the children. Each coach is rewarded with a tshirt for the dedication to the program and children of the community.

SWO Ball Hockey . . . a game anyone can play!

Thank you for supporting SWO.