HOCKEY NEW BRUNSWICK U9 TIERING OVERVIEW

PURPOSE

The U9 level of hockey is a very important step in a player's development, and it is of utmost importance that we prepare our coaches to ensure that the players get the most development, as well as making sure that every time they come to the rink, they are having **FUN**.

In order for players to enjoy the experience of playing hockey at all skill levels we will be introducing tiering at the U9 level for the 2021-22 season. Tiering will be at the discretion of each minor hockey association in New Brunswick as there are varying factors within each association that may allow or not allow for tiering to take place.

TIERING MODEL

LEVEL 1 - DEVELOPMENTAL

The developmental level will be for players who are new to the game or players who need further development on the basic skills of the game (skating, shooting, passing, and puck control).

LEVEL 2 - INTERMEDIATE

The intermediate level is for players who possess many of the basic skills, however, can still improve and refine those skills to actively participate in a more competitive environment. This will allow them to continue to develop those skills in an environment that will build confidence and success.

- Associations that will be tiering at the U9 level must allow players 4 skates prior to evaluations and must allow players 3 evaluation sessions. No evaluations shall take place during the first week of school or during the off-season as per the Hockey Canada U9 Player pathway.
- Associations that are tiering will be required to have 50% of their teams in each level. At both levels teams can consist of players of who are 7 & 8 years of age. The main goal is to have players playing with other players of like skill to ensure players are having fun every time they are on the ice.

RESOURCES:

U9 Hockey Canada Player Pathway

U9 Playing Rules (Half-ice)

U9 Playing Rules (Full-ice)

