



Manual of Operations

Title: FUNdamentals, U7, and U9 Programs	Number: MO-08-01
Source: LMC	
Approved By: WGHA Board	Date Approved: June 2014 Date Last Reviewed: June 2016; May 2024

WGHA will run programming following Hockey Canada's Long-Term Player Development (LTPD) recommendations and OWHA programming recommendations. WGHA programming for ages 4 to 8 years of age is outlined below. The focus of LTPD and our programming is on development of skills for hockey and having fun.

WGHA youth programming will include, as a minimum:

- **Rookie Ravens:** Youth introduction to hockey and skating for ages 4 to 8. This FUNdamentals program is a WGHA branded introduction to skating and basic hockey skills. This is meant to be a fun program teaching the fundamental skill of skating for success in hockey. In addition to learning to skate, the program may add some basic hockey skills.
- **U7 Program** is programming for ages 5 and 6. This is a cross-ice / half-ice program focused on LTPD.
 - Programming based on the OWHA and Hockey Canada U7 Player Pathway.
 - WGHA U7 will strive to conduct regular, bi-weekly station-based practices.
 - WGHA will create U7 teams to play in the local league.
- **U9 Program** is programming for ages 7 and 8. This is a half-ice program, moving to full ice on Jan 15th (as mandated by the OWHA). The U9 Program will have both:
 - Programming based on the OWHA and Hockey Canada U9 Player Pathway.
 - **U9 Representative:** This will be run as a competitive team with tryouts held. Fees in addition to the WGHA Basic Registration will be required.



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- **U9 House League:** U9 HL will create teams to play in the local league and will strive to conduct regular, bi-weekly station-based practices.

PROGRAMMING NOTES:

- The Director of Coaching and Player Development will oversee the Rookie Ravens programming.
- The Director of House League will oversee the U7 and U9 House League programming and will maintain the House League Handbook outlining the operation of the programs.
- The Director of Representative Hockey will oversee the U9 Representative program.
- WGHA will set the fees for the programs based on the following:
 - **Rookie Ravens:** This will be 14 ice times over the course of the season.
 - **U7 program:** Bi-weekly practice schedule. Home game hours dictated by the local league programming. The Director of House League will forecast program ice hours for the next season to allow the fees to be set.
 - **U9 HL program:** Bi-weekly practice schedule. Home game hours dictated by the local league programming. The Director of House League will forecast program ice hours for the next season to allow the fees to be set.