

Southwest Hockey Association Parent Information



Hello SW Hockey Parents,

Southwest Hockey, in partnership with Hockey Calgary are putting processes in place with regards to the sorting / evaluation phase of the upcoming season. This letter is intended to give some overview for the month of September.

The purpose of the sorting / evaluation phase is to group like skilled players. To ensure the safety of all the players, these sessions will be 'physically distanced'. The sorting process may look slightly different, however we believe the cohorts for the Phase 2 ('Development Season'), will be within an appropriate range, for skill development.

In order to ensure as much social distancing as possible, and to provide a safe environment for not only the players and coaches – but also for all the evaluators and volunteers → **during the sorting / evaluation phase**; the following guidelines will be in place:

Division	Message
<p style="text-align: center;">ALL GROUPS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participants MUST bring their OWN clean FILLED water bottle, labelled CLEARLY with their name. There is NO sharing of water bottles! - Waivers (Covid-19 specific) will be emailed, and MUST be completed PRIOR to skating, or the player will not be permitted on the ice. - MUST complete a "Health Daily Checklist"; <u>as per AHS</u> PRIOR to every ice time, or the player will not be permitted on the ice. Further details will come with regards to how these will be facilitated. Guidance is coming from Hockey Calgary. - Facility specific protocols will be emailed or posted to the website, closer to September in case facilities change their requirements. With that being said, there are limitations to dressing room access. - Phase 2 Cohort teams will have the following "Team Operations Staff": Cohort Coach Lead, Head Coach, Assistant Coaches, Team Manager, Assistant Team Manager. - City of Calgary Bylaw → Face masks are mandatory upon entry to the facility. - During the 'Development Season', throughout Phase 2, the Evaluations Committee may re-balance accordingly; to confirm skill compatibility within the Cohorts. Teams will be notified ahead of time. - Sorting / evaluation drills will be posted to the SWH website by August 31st.
<p style="text-align: center;">U7 (Timbits)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Subject to Arena Policy, only one (1) Parent per player will be allowed. - Players come dressed (skates, helmet put on at the rink). Parents would tie skates. - Maintain Junior and Senior 1 – year age groups. - Two (2) Sorting Skates. - Coaches ARE included in cohort numbers. - Will aim to have a 4:1 (player : coach) ratio.
<p style="text-align: center;">U9</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parents can stay to tie player skates, then they are to leave the facility; as spacing will be needed to ensure the safety of evaluators and volunteers. - Players come dressed (skates, helmet put on at the rink). - Two (2) Pre-skates. - Four (4) Sorting Skates. - Coaches ARE included in cohort numbers & can also allow physically distant coaches.

Division	Message
U11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parents can stay to tie player skates, then they are to leave the facility; as spacing will be needed to ensure the safety of evaluators and volunteers. - Players come dressed (skates, helmet put on at the rink). - Three (3) Pre-skates. - Four (4) Sorting Skates. - Coaches are NOT included in cohort numbers.
U13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parents can stay to tie player skates, then they are to leave the facility; as spacing will be needed to ensure the safety of evaluators and volunteers. - Players come dressed (skates, helmet put on at the rink). - Two (2) Pre-skates. - Four (4) Sorting Skates. - Coaches are NOT included in cohort numbers. - As true positional play may be challenging to determine through the physically distant drills → Phase 2 Cohorts for U13 may also be determined by taking into consideration, the sorting skates, as well as the players' team assignments from previous years.
U15 <u>and</u> U18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No parents. - Players come dressed as much as possible (skates, helmet put on at the rink). - Two (2) Pre-skates. - Four (4) Sorting Skates. - Coaches are NOT included in cohort numbers. - Checking Clinics will be offered AFTER cohorts are formed. - Sorting will begin AFTER Elite Tryouts conclude their final releases. - As true positional play may be challenging to determine through the physically distant drills → Phase 2 Cohorts for U15 & U18 may also be determined by taking into consideration, the sorting skates, as well as the players' team assignments from previous years.

In closing, as we continue to move forward over the next few weeks; the safety of the players, coaches and volunteers are at the forefront of our minds. We understand that the protocols and guidelines that are in place; will not appease everyone, however we are doing all we can to have the best possible program in place; so that our players can safely get back to the game they love! We can get through this together!

We encourage all members to review the "Return to Hockey" (*July 28 Update*) document; which provides an overview of our upcoming season --- [Click Here](#).

In addition to this SW Hockey Slapshot Newsletter, our website will continue to be a source of information: www.southwesthockey.ca as well.

If you have questions, please send them to admin@southwesthockey.ca and our Administrator will assist and/or put you in contact with the appropriate Director.

Best,

Jeff Campbell

Jeff Campbell | President
Southwest Hockey Association