



U11 Pathway
What comes next?

March 5, 2020

So your player is graduating from the below atom division...

Now what??

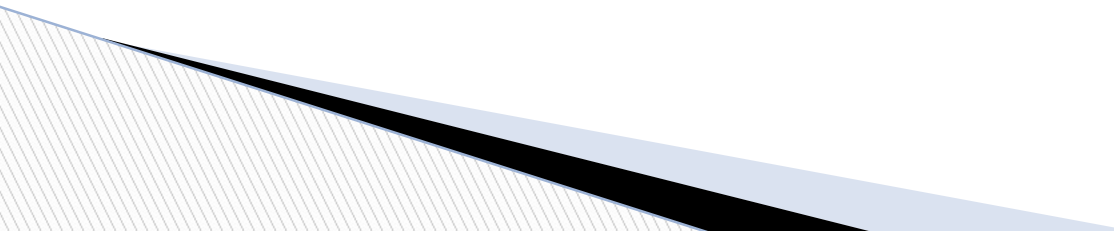


Changing landscape

- Next year will be different from this past season, which hasn't changed for a number of years
- May 2018 – Canadian Development Model Workgroup endorsed the new Canadian Player Pathway
- Nov 2018 – Member Forum approved the implementation of the U11 (Atom) Player Pathway for full implementation in the 2020-21 season

U11 Pathway Changes

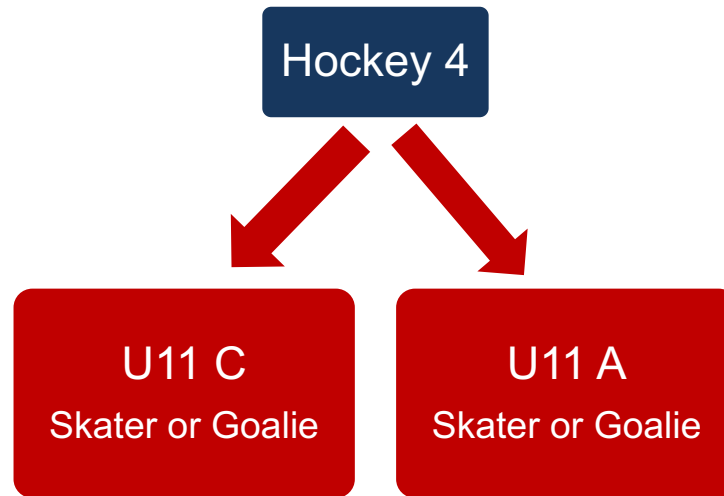
Key changes

- no tryouts/evaluations prior to the start of school
 - must have a min of 4 practices / skill sessions prior to formal evaluations starting
 - tryouts must be a minimum of three sessions (already TBirds method)
 - must have a period of development time following team selection and prior to start of regular season (already TBirds method)
 - must be tournament style playoffs vs elimination rounds
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Changes from 2019/20 Season

- Later start date – previously tryouts started week prior to Labour Day, now will start after first week of school
- Condensed tryout period: working with other associations to find efficiencies and allow teams to be finalized within ~3 weeks of the start of tryouts
- Players will be provided with the ability to be on the ice prior a minimum of 4 times prior to tryouts
 - Players will be able to participate in a Thunderbird summer camp program and/or sign up for ice times between August 31 and September 11

Choose your track



- Choice # 1: Community (Rec) or Developmental (Rep)?
- Choice #2: Skater or Goalie?
- *Next season may be your first, but not last, time to make these choices.*

U11 Community (Rec) “C”

- In 2019/20 – 8 teams based on the total number of players in birth year
 - planning for 8 teams for 2020/21 season dependent upon total # of registrations and # of rep teams formed
- No returning TBirds player is turned away from playing community (rec) hockey at the association – if this is the choice you prefer, you simply need to register for it
- Coaching: Typically parents for all team staff positions

U11 Community (Rec) “C”

- Teams are determined through a balancing process
 - **September: Internal balancing**
 - initial teams will be created using the evaluations from this year (current atom players) and skill group allocations (Novice Major)
 - typically the first two weekends of the September schedule are used for divisions to have back to back games so the coaches can get the best idea on skill levels of all the players
 - **Thanksgiving to Nov:** PCAHA Balancing (grouping) games

Final approval given from PCAHA committee based on balancing games – ***this is not done by Thunderbirds association***

Changes from 2019/20 Season

- Limited changes for Community hockey based on what TBirds have offered previously
- Balancing process is expected to begin the Sept 12/13 weekend
- Players will be provided with the ability to be on the ice prior to the first weekend of the formal balancing process
 - Players will be able to participate in a Thunderbird summer camp program and/or sign up for ice times between August 31 and September 11

A Week in the Life of a U11 Player

Community (Rec)

- 1 practice
 - usually 6:00 – 7:15 am on a weekday
 - shared with another team
- 1 home game
 - usually on Sat early morning to mid-aft or Sun morning
- 1 away game
 - could be any day of the week
 - latest start time = 8:00 pm
 - Vancouver, Richmond, Burnaby, New West
- User pay skill development options for TBirds only
 - Fall: skaters and goalies series
 - Winter: “pop up” options
- Tournaments 1 – 3 times per season

Cost: what to expect

Community (Rec)

- Base fee paid at registration (same for all U11 players)
- Team Fee
 - team budget should be approved by parent group via parent meetings and/or other means of achieving
 - could include items such as:
 - Tournaments
 - Exhibition games
 - Team activities
 - Additional skill providers
- User pay skill options
 - budget = break even cost
 - Examples from this season:
 - Atom series – 8 sessions (\$185)
 - Thunderbird goalie school – 12 sessions (\$550)
 - Pop-up clinics – single session (~\$20-25 per)

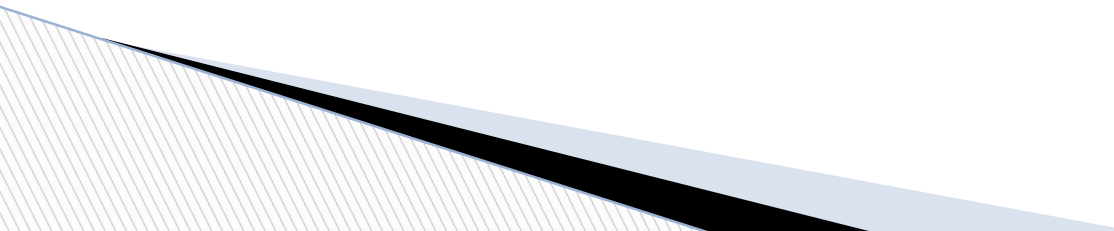
U11 Developmental (Rep) “A”

- In 2019/20 – 3 teams
 - planning for 3 or 4 teams for 2020/21 as determined by number of players trying out and the overall skill level
- Players are selected via a tryout process – registration for tryouts must be completed by July 15
- Coaching: Rep hockey is typically a mix of non-parent (contracted) coaches and parent coaches.

U11 Developmental (Rep) “A”

- Teams are selected through a tryout process and are tiered (not balanced)
- Tryouts likely to begin Friday, September 11th and continue through to the end of September.
- Players **MUST** attend all sessions to be eligible.
 - Please note, family vacations are **NOT** approved absences and unfortunately will need to be avoided.
 - Only exceptions are due to medical reasons with documentation submitted to Executive Director prior to any missed ice time

Evaluation during tryouts

- Players in U11 will be selected based on overall skill level
 - All players in a division will be evaluated by the same selection group during during the first phase which is comprised of non-parent head coaches, 3-4 external evaluators and one TBirds hockey staff member
 - A minimum of two evaluators attend every exhibition game
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Example: 2019-20 Tryout Pathway

PHASE 1

PHASE 2

PHASE 3

1

Skill
Evaluation

Aug 24-25

1 Skills Practice
1 Goalie Session

Evaluation

Conducted by:
Selection
Committee

Stage Completion:
Player Movement
Between Groups

2

Scrimmage
#1

Aug 26

1 Scrimmage

Evaluation

Conducted by:
Selection
Committee

Stage Completion:
Player Movement
Between Groups

3

Scrimmage
#2

Aug 27

1 Scrimmage

Evaluation

Conducted by:
Selection
Committee

Stage Completion:
Assignment to
Practice Groups / C
Division

4

Practice
Groups

Aug 28-30

1-2 scrimmages

Evaluation

Conducted by:
Selection
Committee

Stage Completion:
Assignment to
Practice Rosters / C
Division

5

Interviews

Aug 29 or 30

Individual
Interviews

Evaluation

Conducted by:
Team Coaches and
Selection
Committee

6

Exhibition
Games

Sept 3-14

2-4 Exhibition
Games

Evaluation

Conducted by:
Team or Volunteer
Coaches and
external evaluators

Stage Completion:
Final assignment to
A teams /
C Division

A Week in the Life of a U11 Player

Developmental (Rep)

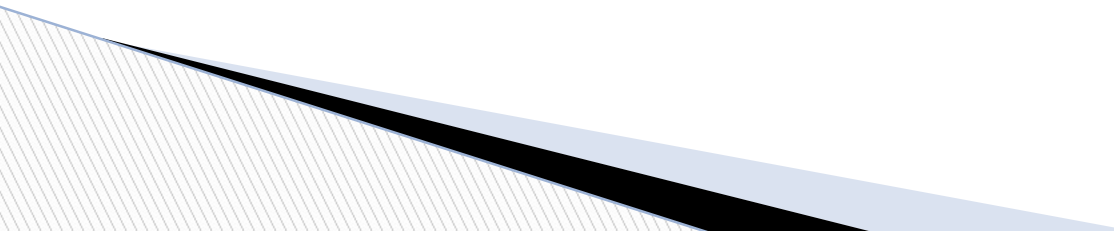
- 2 practices
 - usually 6:00 – 7:15 am on a weekday
 - not shared with another team
 - largest part of rep fee
- 1 home game
 - usually on Sat or Sun morning
- 1 away game
 - could be any day of the week
 - latest start time = 8:00 pm
 - From Sunshine Coast to Abbotsford
- Rep Skills - ~ every 3 weeks
- Additional user pay weekly options - skaters & goalies

Cost: what to expect

Developmental (Rep)

- Base fee paid at registration (same for all U11 players) + rep tryout fee
- Team Fee
 - team budget should be approved by parent group via parent meetings and/or other means of achieving
 - could include items such as:
 - Tournaments
 - Exhibition games
 - Team activities
 - Additional skill providers
- Rep Fee
 - additional weekly practice
 - not shared practice
 - contracted coaches
 - Rep skill sessions
 - Coach development
- User pay skill options
 - HP program (Vancouver Hockey School) – 14-16 sessions (this season 16 sessions for \$640+GST)

On the Ice for all U11 players

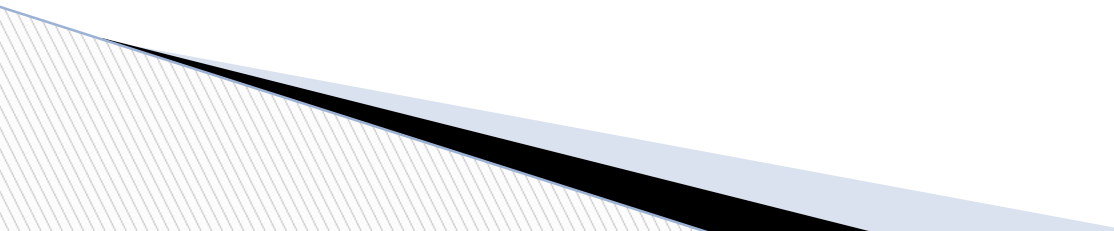
- Goals:
 - Fun
 - Refining of basic skills
 - Introduction to team tactics
 - Practice breakdown (over season)
 - 50% technical skills
 - 20% individual tactics
 - 15% team tactics
 - 10% team play
 - 5% strategy
- 

On the Ice for all U11 players

- Goaltending development for both streams
 - Community (Rec): Steel Development
 - Developmental (Rep): ProFormance Goalie School
- Defence vs Forward – all players will play both positions as per the Hockey Canada player development pathway
 - with cross ice/half ice hockey, no true positions are played and, outside of a short period of spring hockey for some, players have not been exposed to positional play
 - as skills develop, the best position for a player becomes more evident. This typically happens towards the end of their second U11 season and into U13
 - it is important to provide opportunities for players as they go through this period where their individual skills will develop at a high rate
 - at minimum, players should be on a rotation until Christmas each season
 - players will be assigned to defence and forward on a period by period basis during rep tryouts

Expectations in U11

At the team level:

- Same level of commitment expected for both streams – community (rec) is NOT a drop in program.
 - Equal ice time – both streams as mandated by PCAHA
 - Multi-sport athletes are encouraged, but team staff must know about conflicts as soon as they are known AND a fair consideration between both sports should be the goal over the season
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Expectations in U11

From our members:

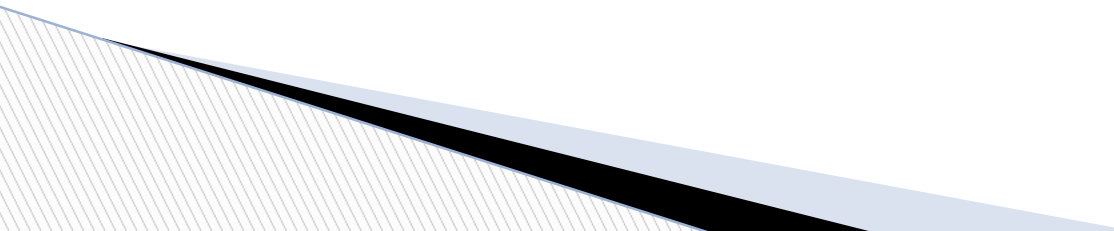
- Sportsmanship – code of conducts followed to create a positive environment where the players can feel they are valued. Winning is not the most important element!
- Families need to continue volunteering
 - Association level (Division Ambassadors, association events, Photo day, etc)
 - Team level (Coaches, Team Managers, HCSP, scorekeepers, two deep rule coverage, Communications, etc)

U11 (Atom) Pathway Document

If you want more information on the full pathway:

<https://www.bchockey.net/Files/190117%20-%20Atom%20Pathway.Presentation%20Light.v11.pdf>

Coaches should ensure they are familiar with the document as it will provide a great guide for your seasonal planning.



QUESTIONS?