



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 20, 2018

Novice Program Resources

BC Hockey, in cooperation with its member Minor Hockey Associations (MHAs), continue to show progressive leadership in the delivery of the Initiation and Novice Programming. Working closely with Hockey Canada, updated program resources have been provided to ensure the efficient and consistent delivery of skill development curriculums across BC and the Yukon.

[CLICK HERE](#) for video message from Hockey Canada's Chief Executive Officer Tom Renney to BC Hockey's membership.

Numerous resources are available on the [Initiation/Novice Program Delivery page on the BC Hockey website](#), including how to implement the program, parent education and practice plans. Please check the website often as additional resources and information will continue to be posted.

Hockey Canada has released further resources on:

[Initiation](#)

[Novice](#)

The objectives of the Initiation/Novice Programs are:

- Programming should be delivered through a progressive learn-to-play teaching curriculum that spans the five- to eight-year-old age group.
- Children learn best through participating in practice drills and sessions as well as informal and modified games such as shinny, freeze tag and obstacle courses.
- The program consists of two levels of instruction, designed specifically for young hockey players. Each level consists of a series of practice plans (lesson plans) that follow a defined path of progressions.
- The skills of skating, puck control, passing and shooting are introduced and refined in a progressive 'one step at a time' manner.
- Although the emphasis is on fun and skill development, hockey at these ages should also allow youngsters to experience fitness, fair play and cooperation.
- To ensure a positive experience for the children, a coaching clinic has been designed for the on-ice coaches that focuses on communication, teaching skills, leadership, skill analysis, lesson organization, and safety and risk management.

The philosophy of cross/half-ice hockey has been proven by numerous studies to be the most effective way for young kids to master the skills of hockey in a game environment. Mastery of skills and fun of playing are essential to both development and maintaining interest in the game of hockey.

Hockey Canada has applauded BC Hockey and its MHAs with the progressive nature Associations have taken in the delivery of these important programs.

For more information about BC Hockey, please visit the BC Hockey website at www.bchockey.net or email info@bchockey.net or follow along through social media at www.facebook.com/BCHockeySource, www.twitter.com/BCHockey_Source, www.youtube.com/BCHockeySource or www.instagram.com/BCHockeySource.

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