

Tier One Development Plan

OVERVIEW

Tier one is the highest level of community hockey offered by Whitemud West Hockey Association. Our development program places a heavy focus on age-appropriate skill development set forth by Hockey Alberta's Long Term Player Development Program (LTPD) and feeds elite hockey programs at our partner organization, the Canadian Athletic Club.

Our program offers a comparable level of development to elite and private programs at a noticeably lower cost. This unique development program is offered to tier one teams in U9, U11 and U13 allowing players to remain in their community boundaries, playing with friends and classmates and at an affordable cost while developing their hockey skills to reach the next level. Participation in the tier one program demands a high commitment from both the player and their family.



Through preparation, practice, game play and giving back, our players will learn essential life skills like teamwork, perseverance, and discipline. We want Whitemud West players to continue to be known as great hockey players but also as responsible, confident, and respectful individuals.

TEAM SELECTION

The team selection process will take place in September 2025 and will be consistent with our prior evaluations processes. Independent evaluators will place players into scrimmage groups through the use of skating drill time trials. Following the initial scrimmages, movement between groups may occur, when evaluation scores permit.

Final rosters will be determined at the conclusion of evaluations and players who have been selected for the Tier One teams will be notified by the Head Coach of their team.



	On-Ice Practices	Skill Sessions	Off-Ice Skill Sessions
U9 Players born in 2017 and 2018	24 ice times including curated practice plans	6 sessions of powerskating & puckhandling skills	6 dryland sessions with qualified fitness personnel
U11 Players born in 2015 and 2016	24 ice times including curated practice plans	12 sessions of powerskating & puckhandling skills	6 dryland sessions with qualified fitness personnel
U13 Players born in 2013 and 2014	24 ice times including curated practice plans	12 sessions of powerskating & puckhandling skills	6 dryland sessions with qualified fitness personnel

Goaltender development sessions are offered by an external vendor in a series of 12 sessions per season with higher tier goaltenders being grouped together to ensure that they are appropriately challenged.

Note



Game allocation is determined by the Edmonton Federation Hockey League (EFHL) and is subject to ice allocation and availability. Based on EFHL Standard of Play for 2024-25, we anticipate the following:

In accordance with EFHL Standards of Play, teams will be subject to a re-tiering process that occurs after the tiering round.

2025-26 SEASON FEE SCHEDULE

U9

Registration* \$800
Development Fee \$350

TOTAL \$1,150

U11

Registration* \$975
Development Fee \$650

TOTAL \$1,625

U13

Registration* \$1,075
Development Fee \$850

TOTAL \$1,925

*An early bird discount of \$100 is offered to players registered before July 15, 2025 and is deducted from the registration fee noted above.

Cash calls may be requested to support extra costs not included in the registration fees noted above. Such costs can include team entry in tournaments, team apparel, or extra team determined activities as social activities, off-ice training or additional ice time etc. Tournaments can take place in Edmonton and surrounding areas or may be held out of town. Tournament travel costs (including transportation, hotels, meals and other team activities) are not included in registration fees or team cash calls. To encourage affordability of our programs, team cash calls are limited to 50% of registration fees per player per season for all Whitemud West Hockey Association teams. The amounts of specific cash calls are determined on a team by team basis.

LOOKING AHEAD



We are excited for the inaugural season of our Tier One development program!

Our goal is to offer our players a competitive development model in familiar environment at the value you have come to expect from Whitemud West.

We hope to see all interested players at evaluations in the Fall!



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Hours of Operation
M-Th 9am to 1pm

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A big shoutout to Curtis Zacher at Bar Down Photography for letting us showcase these fantastic images!