



NOVICE HALF-ICE HOCKEY

GAME PLAY RULES

- 4 vs 4 (recommended)
- 3-minute warm-up | 2 x 18-25 min halves | 2-minute break at half
- Face-offs – Only 2 face-offs/game. One at the beginning and one to start the second half
- No score is kept
- Both games are synchronized
- Players give the opposing team half after goal is scored
- Must use blue pucks (4 oz)

SHIFTS

- 2-minute shifts regulated by buzzer or whistle
- Once the buzzer or whistle signals a shift change, players must leave the puck and go to the bench. If a player is double shifting, they must tag up at the bench

OFFICIATING HALF-ICE

- A Hockey New Brunswick official is required for each game
- Two half-ice games require two officials
- Change of Possession – If a goaltender freezes the puck, the official must blow the whistle to indicate the attacking team must back off and defending team gets possession
- Puck shot out of play – the offending team backs off and the official gives the defending team a new puck

PENALTIES

- Minor penalties are noted with the official briefly raising their arm to indicate a penalty will be assessed. The official then notifies the on-ice coach (must be one coach on the ice for each team). The coach then explains the penalty to the player at that time (away from the play). Once the explanation is complete the player resumes that shift
- If the offending team controls the play after the infraction, the official blows the whistle and calls for a change of possession. The non-offending team is given room to play the puck (3-metre buffer)

RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT

- Rink dividers | Boards | Pads
- Smaller 3 x 4 nets (if available)
- Shooter tutor on hand (if team is unable to dress a goaltender)

NOVICE SEASONAL STRUCTURE

- No games shall start until November 15th of the current season
- The maximum number of games that can be played at the Novice level is 35. This includes jamboree games
- Novice 2 and Novice mixed teams (Novice 1 & 2) cannot start full-ice games until January 15th
- No full time Goaltenders – Each team should rotate goalie equipment among the players that wish to try the goaltender position

WWW.HNB.CA

