



## U9 HALF-ICE HOCKEY

### GAME PLAY RULES

- 4 vs 4 (recommended)
- 3-minute warm-up | 2 periods with a run time clock not to exceed 60 minutes.
- 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
- Blue pucks (4 oz) or black pucks (6oz) are acceptable

### 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)

## U9 SEASONAL STRUCTURE

- No games shall start until November 15<sup>th</sup> of the current season
  - The maximum number of games that can be played at the U9 level is 35. This includes jamboree games
  - U9 2 and U9 mixed teams (U9 1 & 2) cannot start full-ice games until January 15<sup>th</sup>
  - No full time Goaltenders – Each team should rotate goalie equipment among the players that wish to try the goaltender position
- Playing Surface – Half-Ice
- The maximum size of the ice surface is 100 feet by 85 feet.  
One net should be placed on the goal line and the other net placed inside the red line in the same end.

[WWW.HNB.CA](http://WWW.HNB.CA)

