



2023-24 OPERATIONS PLAN

Last Revision: February 7, 2024



Introduction:

This 2023-24 Operations Plan defines how the DJHL will function from start to finish and operate in terms of divisional alignment. This Operations Plan reflects alignment decisions already decided by majority vote of MHA Presidents and other decisions made by the DJHL Operations Committee within their authority. The League Budget will subsequently reflect the final decisions rendered herein.

Unless otherwise stated herein, current approaches to hockey operations, try-out process and business transactions, as dictated by the League Governance Document (see League Info page at www.djhl.ca) shall remain in place. Furthermore, changes herein reflect an effort to comply with Hockey Canada's Pathways Development Model.

All references to "AA" hereinafter means "Pooled."

Guiding Principles:

The contents of this Operations Plan are guided by a desire to achieve the following for our 10 division League:

- Parity
- Affordability
- Reasonable opportunity for every player to participate at their skill level
- Reasonable scale of operation
- Competitive environment
- Conducive environment for volunteers

Staffing:

The DJHL will be introducing changes to its staffing to streamline and better define operational duties and balance staff responsibilities. The new titles are as follows (duties found in online Governance document):

- League Director (lead staff person)
- League Scheduler
- League Registrar
- Manager of Minor Pooled Hockey
- Manager of Girls Pooled Hockey

Fees:

- There will be no increases to full-time player registration fees on League-operated teams.
- The AA program try-out base fee will be a one-time charge of \$120. An additional \$80 fee will be charged players electing to participate in a series of four non-evaluated practices at start of the try-out process. These sessions will include time dedicated to body checking instruction for U15AA Minor players.
- U15 AA division player registration for U15AA and GU13AA will stay at \$1,200, while GU15AA player fees will be set at \$1,000.
- GU15AA players not also on a GU15AAA roster can also pay an additional \$200 fee to be part of the GU15AA travel program to compete against AA teams from other HNL regions.
- All pooled AP registration will now increase to \$160. Details about this Program appear on our League Info page at www.djhl.ca.

- Club base fee paid by each member Association will remain at \$500. The \$150 club entry fee per team will also be unchanged.
- U13AAA teams will pay a Team Fee of \$2,200 to cover HNL player registration & League overhead. Players do not pay any fees directly to the DJHL. U13AAA teams will reimburse League for all home game ice and game officials.

Play-offs:

- All teams will qualify for the play-offs.
- Bracket format will be used and all series will be First to 4 Points (**with exception of U15AA**)
- There will be no consolation rounds – when a team loses a series, they are eliminated.
- Sudden victory Bronze Medal games will be featured in divisions with 5 or more teams
- **The League title in U15AA will also be the HNL Championship title – no separate HNL tournament for this division since no outside teams compete in this age division category. Play-off season will be lengthened as a compromise.**

Division	Format
U11A U15B	Quarter-final between 4th and 5th, with winner advancing to semi-finals to join 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.
U11B U13A U13B U15A	Quarter-final bye for 1 st . 2 nd vs. 7 th , 3 rd vs. 6 th , and 4 th vs 5 th in quarter-finals. Seeding determines semi-final match-ups.
U15AA	Best of 5 semi-finals + Best of 5 final.
GU15AA GU13AA	1 st vs. 4 th and 2 nd vs. 3 rd in semi-finals. Winners play for title
U13AAA	1 st gets a bye and 2 nd and 3 rd play in semi-final. Winner of semi-final faces 1 st for title

Divisional Alignment & Structure:

Division	Projected Teams	Regular Season	Other
U15AA	4 DJHL owned	30 games per team (60 total)	40 practices per team
U13AAA	3 HNL owned	22 games per team (33 total)	DJHL is not responsible for scheduling any U13AAA practices
U15A	6 Club	24 games per team	
U15B	6 Club	24 games per team	
U13A	6 Club	24 games per team	
U13B	7 Club	24 games per team	
U11A	5 Club	24 games per team	
U11B	7 Club	24 games per team	
GU15AA	4 DJHL owned & pool of AA travel players	27 games per team	40 split practice hours per team; players must play AA to be AAA eligible
GU13AA	4 DJHL owned	27 games per team	40 split practice hours per team; players must play AA to be AAA eligible

Game Lengths:

- Game lengths will three 15 minute stopped time periods played within 1.5-hour time slots for the following divisions: U15AA + U13AAA + U15A + U15B + U13A + U11A
- Game lengths will three 10 minute stopped time periods played within a one-hour time slot for the following divisions: GU15AA + GU13AA + U13B + U11B

Key Pivots:

- Subject to Female Council approval, use our pool of non-AAA GU15 players to expose them to HNL AA tournaments (rotating rosters) and two even teams will play in AA Provincials.
- Limit individual awards to First and Second All-Star Teams in U15AA and just First All-Star Teams in Girls Pooled. Team MVPs selected by Head Coaches in consultation with team staff. Three players per team nominated by Head Coach for Most Dedicated Teammate and players decide by secret vote. Any player winning more than one award will receive a single larger trophy/plaque indicating their accomplishments.
- Staff Code of Conduct competed at time of Volunteer application
- Parent Player Agreement emailed by Head Coach or Manager at time of first introduction

Schedule Overview:

POOLED MINOR HOCKEY STREAM	Time Frame
On-line Registration	August 1 - 31
U15 AA Goalie Camp	September 7-11 range
U15 AA Main Try-out Camp	September 18 – 30
Pre-Draft Scrimmage Period for Selected U15 AA Players	October 9-14
U15 AA Draft Day	October 18
Pre-Season Practice Period (2 weeks)	October 19 – 31
Regular Season (17 weeks of games)	November 1 – February 29
Christmas Break	December 23 – January 2
Play-off Window	March 4 – March 23
Pre-Provincials Practice Week	March 25-30
Easter Week HNL Provincials	April 1-6

POOLED GIRLS HOCKEY STREAM	Time Frame
On-line Registration	August 1 -31
GU15 AA & GU13 AA Try-out Camp	September 18 – 30
Scrimmage Week for Selected Players for Pre-Draft Scouting Purposes	October 9-14
Girls U13 & U15 AA Draft Day	October 18
Pre-Season Practice Period (2 weeks)	October 19 – 31
Regular Season (17 weeks of games, 1 week Xmas break)	November 1 – February 29
Christmas Break	December 23 – January 2
Play-off Window	March 4 – March 23
HNL Provincials	March 15-17 & 22-24

Note: Atlantic Cup Oct. 13-16; NL Winter Games February 24 – March 2

