

ONTARIO HOCKEY FEDERATION

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Appendix A: U9 Seasonal Calendar MD or Select Teams

Applies to U9 MD or Select teams (highest tier within the Member)

2026-27 Under-9 Seasonal Calendar

Non-Team Development	Non-Team Development Opportunities are part of the season with your registered Association. If your Association/Member operates non-team development opportunities, you must participate with your Association/Member. If your Association/Member does not operate non team development opportunities, you may register with any other Association/Member.
Player Evaluations	Spring evaluations for U9 Minor Development (MD) and Select hockey (highest tier within the Member) can begin at the direction of each Member, starting as early as the first day after their Member's U8 programming is complete for the 2025-26 season and can extend for 14 days from that date.

Under-9 Spring Player Evaluation Seasonal Calendar

Preparation Phase	AKA–non-Team Development Opportunities. Requirements: Minimum of four (4) skill sessions must be provided by a Minor Hockey Association (or group of MHAs) to all Players. Players are not required to attend the preparation skates; attendance does not impact eligibility to attend Player Evaluations.
Player Evaluations	Requirements: U9 hockey player evaluations provide a fair and consistent assessment of each player's skills during skating sessions and on-ice games, with scrimmages played in a half-ice format to better observe skill, decision- making, and engagement. The goal is to create balanced, competitive teams where players can develop, participate equitably, and enjoy the game.
Development Phase	Teams selected in the spring must run a Development Phase between: Start: September 8th



End: October 31st

Requirements:

U9 programming **must** maintain a minimum 2:1 practice-to-game ratio

September 8 thru to September 30th

Following Labour Day Monday, teams may only practice and play a maximum of two (2) **half-ice** exhibition games.

October 1st thru to October 31st

Teams may only practice and play a maximum of Four (4) **Full-Ice** Exhibition games or Two (2) **Full-Ice** Exhibition games and one (1) Full-ice Tournament.

Under-9 Fall Player Evaluation Seasonal Calendar

Applies to Associations that did not deliver spring Player Evaluations.

Preparation Phase

AKA – non-Team Development Opportunities.

Start: may begin September 8

Requirements: Minimum of four (4) skill sessions must be provided by a Minor Hockey Association (or group of MHAs) or Member to all Players. Players are not required to attend the preparation skates; attendance does not impact eligibility to attend Player Evaluations.

Player Evaluations

Start: may begin September 12

Requirements: U9 hockey player evaluations provide a fair and consistent assessment of each player's skills during skating sessions and on-ice games, with scrimmages played in a half-ice format to better observe skill, decision-making, and engagement. The goal is to create balanced, competitive teams where players can develop, participate equitably, and enjoy the game.

Development Phase

Start: September 19

End: October 31

Requirement: U9 programming must maintain a minimum 2:1 practice-to- game ratio

September 13 thru to September 30th

Teams may only practice and play a maximum of one (1) half-ice



exhibition game.

October 1st thru to October 31st

Teams may only practice and play a maximum of Four (4) Full-Ice Exhibition games or Two (2) Full -Ice Exhibition games and one (1) Full-ice tournament.

Tournaments

Tournaments for all Divisions and Categories of U9 permitted to start **October 23, 2026**.

Regular Season

The Regular Season for all Divisions and Categories permitted to start **November 1, 2026**

Preparation Phase & Player Evaluation Resources: On-Ice

Hockey Canada has provided on-ice practice plans to support Associations in facilitating the Preparation Phase and Player Evaluations.

PREPARATION PHASE RESOURCES

[Under-9 Preparation Practice Plans](#)

PLAYER EVALUATION RESOURCES

[Under-9 Player Evaluation Practice Plans](#)