



North East Minor Hockey Association
7 Kennedy Brook Drive
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U18 MINOR – 2025/26 PROGRAM

Background

The goal of the NEMHA U18 Minor program is to provide a platform that meets the unique challenges of this group in their final years of Minor Hockey. We recognize the demands on kids at the high school age as they balance having jobs, focusing on their studies, and preparing for life after high school. As such, the Association attempts to have a flexible offering that will assist with creating the right balance to allow them to enjoy playing hockey with their friends.

That said, last season the Association experienced significant challenges with attendance at MCHL games for this division and as such defaulted on a record number of games. These defaults resulted in the Association having to pay financial penalties and a damaged reputation.

So, for this season the Association will focus on closer collaboration with the coaches in this division and offer the following programming:

2025-26 U18 Minor Programming

- House league teams for U18 Minor will have an increased roster size to a maximum of 17 players. This will be done to reduce the possibility of defaults.
- Players that are carded with High School teams will be allowed to play House League. These players will be distributed as evenly as possible across teams.
- Depending on the number of registrants the Association is committed to sending A/B/C teams to Provincials.
- As per HockeyNL rules Development teams must play a minimum of 10 games before the grading cutoff in January.
- Players that are carded as full time with High School teams do not have to play House League in order to tryout for Development teams.
- As per AAA League rules players with full time positions on U18AAA and U16AAA cannot play on North East Development teams.
- At this time there are no changes planned for the U18 Female program.