

Community Hockey

To provide quality hockey experiences which enhance the wellbeing of our communities



Framework Details

U13 - Explore the Game

Fun & Individual Development Focus

Recommendations

- **MEET PRINCIPLES**
- Small-sided game format (refer Small Sticks Association Guide)
- 2-3 hockey contacts per week e.g. training/game and development programme
- No formal winners, officially record game results or season table grading
- No pre-season/build up necessary
- Quality Coaching – maximise available resource

Considerations

- Flexibility to fit local/regional needs
 - Timing of programmes
 - Alignment with local partners
 - Mixed or Girls/Boys grades
- Can be delivered at Association facilities or local community hubs/satellites
- Appropriate season length 2x 8weeks / 1 x 16 weeks starting no earlier than beginning of term 2 and ending no later than end of term 3
- Half game participation (rule of thumb)
- Flexible rules and entry i.e. register as team or individual, school or club
- Focus on Fun and playing games, less on trainings
- Incorporate coach and umpire development alongside participation opportunities
- Parent/whānau education opportunities (i.e. Good Sports)

Event Details (Festivals/Tournaments etc)

The following are additional to the general recommendations & considerations above.

Recommendations

- Localised (geographical Association clusters 1-3)
- Minimise travel
- 1-3 days
- Open entry
- Equal ability teams (not streamed by player ability)
- No trials
- Minimise de-selection
- Build in social activities - ensure match scheduling enables this to occur i.e. opening ceremony, a social night, team challenges

Considerations

- Development over outcome focused
- Consider holding over a weekend/long weekend
- Uniforms optional (i.e. bibs as options) – consider providing attendee ribbons/t-shirts
- Partnering with other codes
- Provide digital engagement (photo sharing, social media presence etc)
- Positive engagement/experience for parents, guardians and whānau

U15 - Explore the Game and Prepare to Compete

Fun & Individual Development Focus

Recommendations

- **Meet Principles**
- Preference to play in an age-appropriate competition & not play in adult competitions
- 3-4 hockey contacts per week max e.g. training/game and development programme
- Transition to full field appropriate to participant needs
 - Small-sided games (development) & 11 a-side (extend)
- Season length starting no earlier than start of term 2 and ending no later than end of term 3
- Development over outcome focus
- Quality Coaching – maximise available resource/personnel

Considerations

- Flexibility to fit local/regional needs
 - Timing of programmes
 - Alignment with local partners
 - Girls/Boys grades or mixed
- Incorporate coach and umpire development alongside participation opportunities
- Player loading consideration (max. games, rest days and other commitments)
 - 1-2 events are sufficient (consider those involved in Secondary Schools Tournament Week/U18's)
 - Timings important - consider secondary school schedule i.e. avoid Term 3 first 7 weeks etc, exam periods etc...
- Parent/whānau education opportunities (i.e. Balance is Better)

Event Details (Festivals/Tournaments etc)

The following are additional to the general recommendations & considerations above.

Recommendations

- Collective/Regional (Upper North/Lower North/ South Island)
- 4-6 days
- Open Entry
- Equal ability teams (not streamed by player ability)
- No Trials
- Minimise de-selection
- Minimal build up
- Build in social activities - ensure match scheduling enables this to occur i.e. opening ceremony, a social night, team challenges

Considerations

- Consider holding over a weekend/long weekend
- Uniforms optional (i.e. bibs as options) – consider providing attendee ribbons/t-shirts
- Provide digital engagement (photo sharing, social media presence etc)
- Positive engagement/experience for parents, guardians and whānau
- Consider parent/whānau education opportunities (i.e. Good Sports)

#Note: New to the Game and Social Participants at U15 will sit under the U13 framework recommendations.