

Varsity Shinny Hockey Information Page

Varsity Shinny Hockey is a FUN league for children aged 6-12 years old.

- Community based, volunteer run.
- Variety of skill levels on all teams.
- Mixed gender teams.
- Mandatory Equipment required:
 - Hockey helmet with full face shield, hockey gloves, shin pads, elbow pads and hockey stick
 - **NOTE:** Full equipment is recommended such as hockey pants, neck protector, shoulder pads, mouth guard and a cup.
- Outdoor hockey is weather dependent.
- Proposed Start date of December 1 (weather dependent) with a break for the holidays (last evening is Dec 15) and restarting on January 5, 2017. The program will go as long as weather permits. In past years we have been able to play until the end of February.
- The hockey will be canceled if the temperature is below -20C or if the ice melts and is unsafe.

Overall program coordinators:

- Grant Basiuk gbasiuk@gmail.com 403-288-4648
- On Ice Coaches
 - Chris Sarin csarin@shaw.ca

Age Categories:

- U8 children 6 to 8 years of age. Coordinator
- U12 children 9 to 12 years of age. - Coordinator

Dates and Times:

- Thursday at the Varsity Community outdoor rink behind the community center.
- U8 division will play from 6:30-7:30 pm
- U12 division will follow from 7:35-8:35 pm.
- Occasionally, we may play on Tuesday if Thursday weather has been uncooperative. Same times as Thursday.

Parents Role

Parents Are Required as Volunteers to help run this community program by:

- **You do not need to take on all of these roles – any help is appreciated.**
- Coordinating the U8 and U12 players;
- Coaching, (You do not need to be a hockey expert!) The role of the coach is to encourage the children's efforts and ensure a spirit of fair play prevail;
- Cleaning snow from the rink before games;
- Helping flood the rink throughout the week. Need 6 volunteers to help flood the ice (3 people at a time, but having a team of 6 ensures that 3 people are available). It takes approximately 1-1.5 hours to clean the ice and flood. Usually starting at 9:15 - 9:30 until finished.
- Organizing a season wind-up evening.
- Ensure your children are dressed appropriately for the weather. Recognizing that they will be working hard and will be warmer than you will be when you are standing on the side lines encouraging them.
- Bathroom facilities are available in the community hall, but skates must either be removed or use skate guards.
- **This is a volunteer run program and we encourage you to cheer and offer encouragement to the young hockey stars. If you must leave your child at the rink, please ensure you arrange with another parent to look after your child while you are gone. In addition, tell the coach or coordinator which parent will be responsible for your child.**
 - **NOTE:** This is very important because children, as in any sport, may sustain an injury or may become very cold due to the weather.
- Fee assistance is available through VCA. Please contact the VCA office for details