

YSMHL COMPETITIVE PATHWAY PROGRAM

WHAT IS IT?

The Competitive Pathway Program (CPP) is a YSMHL rebrand of Select for U7 U8 and U9 Teams. It's an opportunity for Associations to focus on development for pathway age group players and families that want more access to hockey than House League alone.

By providing a structure similar to rep it allows Associations to plan for training and development, acquire coaches and allocate ice time early in the year and well in advance of a typical Select Team's start time.

The success and development of athletes in the Pathway age groups is critical to the health of OMHA Member Association's Rep Programs at U10 and above and CPP will provide a structure to bridge the current gap.

MISSION

CPP is designed to give our youngest players a fun, comprehensive and age-appropriate hockey development experience in accordance with the Hockey Canada Pathway and Ontario Hockey Federation (OHF) Player Development Model.

This program has been developed by a Committee of Association Members from Markham and Stouffville with the goal of providing players and their families with a more consistent, time-efficient hockey schedule primarily on local rinks in our communities. The Program is sanctioned by the OMHA and YSMHL and is open to all YSMHL Associations beginning with the 2024-25 minor hockey season.

The vision for CPP is to have Associations play within either the North or South Division with the goal of limiting travel time. YSMHL will provide centralized communication and scheduling support for a full season of exhibition games.

ORGANIZATION

The CPP is an extension of House League and is available to all registered U7, U8 and U9 players on an evaluation basis. The operations are to be managed by Board executives and volunteers from the Member Associations who will oversee budgeting, scheduling, tiering, planning and coordination. Member Teams will wear a CPP shoulder patch.

Responsibilities include:

- Player registration, evaluations, and roster approvals
- Parents/team official approvals and certifications
- Providing one hour of ice time per week, per team entered.
- Management and collection of tournament/exhibition approval forms
- Its also recommended that each Member Association appoint a Director of CPP

COMPOSITION

- Only registered House League players may be rostered on CPP teams.
- Players must play in their birth-year division.
- Each member club may enter any number of teams into each age division as long as minimum roster sizes are maintained. (Hybrid teams consisting of players from different Member Associations are permitted subject to coordination of Member Associations and approval by OMHA)
- Teams in U7 and U8 should consist of 18 rostered players which in games allows for 16 skaters and 2 goalies. (Goalies rotate in U7 and may be designated in U8).
- Teams in U9 should consist of at least 16 players and up to 18 players.
- The minimum suggested roster size for entry into the program is 16 players.



SEASON OVERVIEW

CPP Teams will play in one of two Divisions - CPP North and CPP South.

Each Team will play approximately 18 regular season games at a rate of 3 games per month in a balanced schedule rotating among the different Member Associations within their Division.

Games can start as early as October.

Teams may also participate in tournaments and exhibition games outside of the CPP program.

An end-of season Jamboree will bring together all teams for a weekend celebration.

GAMEPLAY AND RULES

CPP will follow Hockey Canada Pathway Rules and Procedures. Games will be played based on Pathways structure of each age group.

ASSOCIATION BENEFITS

- Long term player development
- Player retention
- Renewed focus on young players and new families
- Deeper skill pool for future Rep Programs
- More players available for House Leagues

