## PHILOSOPHY

Novi Parks sponsored leagues and activities are formed and operated on the principles of good sportsmanship, fair play, courtesy to others, healthy activity and other policies pertaining to all-around community understanding and development. Novi Parks programs are strictly recreational; therefore, all players are to receive equal playing time in games.

Note: Any child who is not registered is NOT allowed to participate in any practice or competition for reasons of liability for the family and Novi Parks.

## DIVISIONS

- Kindergarten - Grade 1
- Grades 2-3
- Grades 4-6


## TEAMS

Each division will have up to 20 players and everyone within the division will participate in one large group. They will be split into two teams for the games and teams will change from week-to-week so the kids can play with and against different players each week.

## NUMBER OF PLAYERS AND PARTICIPATION

- Games will be played in 6 v 6 format ( 3 forwards, 2 on defense, 1 goalie)
- Coaches are instructed to try to play all players at least $1 / 2$ of each game


## UNIFORM

- A reversible team jersey will be distributed at the first session
- Players must wear their jersey during all sessions
- Sneakers shall be the only acceptable footwear
- Players are not allowed to wear jewelry (including earrings)


## EQUIPMENT

- All players are required to provide their own eye protection
- Mouth guards and shin guards are recommended, but not required
- Plastic sticks and pucks will be provided by Novi Parks
- Goalie equipment will also be provided


## OFFICIALS

Each team is to provide one coach or assistant coach to officiate the game. All coaches and volunteers should be familiar with the philosophy of the league and assist in its implementation during games. The philosophy of our coaches acting as officials during games is to lean towards allowing the kids to learn to play. During the game, coaches can help to create a learning environment by explaining rules to the players. If players make mistakes, coaches should show them how to play the game correctly. Occasionally, it may be useful to stop the game and explain the rule or a call.

## DURATION OF GAMES

- Time will be kept during the game by the Site Supervisor.
- Games will consist of three 14 minute periods, with a 4 minute rest between each period. Time will continuously run, except in the case of a timeout or injury.
- A whistle will be called midway through each period to allow for substitutions.
- Each session will last only 1.5 hours, even if the full game time has not been played.
- No score will be kept or posted.
- There is no overtime period.


## TIMEOUTS

Each team will be given 1 time out ( 30 seconds) per period. Unused time outs do not carry over to the next period.

## SUBSTITUTIONS

Substitutions are at the discretion of the coach and can be made at any time, as long as the participation rule is being met.

## RULES OF PLAY

1. Designated coaches or assistant coaches will serve as the referees for all games.
2. A faceoff at center court will occur at the start of play, as well as after every goal and/or stoppage of play (except in the case of Rule 4).
3. All sticks must be kept low. If a stick is raised above the waist on either the backswing or follow-through, then a "high sticking" penalty should be called.
4. Warnings will be given for high sticking, checking, slashing, and unsportsmanlike conduct. In the case of each of these fouls, a penalty shot from the free throw line will be awarded to the player that was fouled.
5. All walls, corners, and doors are in play. If a puck gets caught/trapped in one of these, then a faceoff will occur. Players may use caroms to pass and/or shoot.
6. All 6 players are allowed to cross the half-court line to press/rush the opponent's goal. It is advised that at least 2 defensive players remain behind the line.
7. There are no off-sides or icing.
8. Pucks cannot be intentionally touched, stepped on, or kicked. A non-contested faceoff will take place for the team that had last control of the puck.

## COACHES NOTES

- In case of injury to any team member or spectator, the coach must work with the Site Supervisor to complete an accident report that is to be turned into the Parks Department within 24 hours of the accident.
- Coaches and all assistants MUST be background checked with Novi Parks.


## SPORTSMANSHIP

Please keep in mind that the purpose of this organization is to provide a safe instructional experience for the enjoyment of each player, and to further sportsmanship and understanding of the game.

