



HOCKEY SASKATCHEWAN

Membership Presentation

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

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Land Acknowledgement

Before we begin, Hockey Saskatchewan wants to start by acknowledging that we have viewers joining us from across the province whose work reaches lands covered by Treaties 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10, the traditional lands of the Cree, Dakota, Dene, Lakota, Nakota and Saulteaux peoples, as well as homeland of the Métis.

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Presentation Agenda

Hockey Saskatchewan Membership Presentation Agenda:

- Hockey Saskatchewan MHA Matching Grant
- Phase 2 of the 'Where Fun Wins' Initiative
- Under-9 Hockey
- Culture & Inclusion Initiatives
- Registration
- Coaching Certification
- Officiating Development Program
- Grassroots Programming
- Sask First (High-performance Program)
- Hockey Day in Saskatchewan
- World Junior 50/50
- Olympic Shout-outs
- Hockey Saskatchewan Awards

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MHA Matching Grant

MHA Matching Grant Program Returns for 2025-26 Season

Hockey Saskatchewan's Minor Hockey Association (MHA) Matching Grant Program is back for the 2025-26 season. It will once again be in support of hiring power skating instructors or to have a local person trained to be a power skating instructor to assist in player development with a matching grant of up to \$1,000.00.

IMPORTANT:

- One application per MHA will be accepted and the MHA must match the grant received.
- Power skating services must be targeted towards the Under-7 to Under-13 age groups within an MHA and must have occurred from September to December 2025.
- Power skating certification must be obtained by December 31, 2025.
- Online grant applications **NOW** are open until February 28, 2026.

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MHA Matching Grant

Power skating instructors must possess the following certification in order for an MHA to qualify for the grant:

Required Training

1. Respect in Sport Activity Leader

Plus, one of the five designations below

a) Hockey Canada Certified Skills Coach (Level 3)

Delivered by Hockey Canada

Topics include: Skating, Skills, Defence, Shooting & Scoring

Hockey Network APP training

Application process to attend, hosted biannually by Hockey Canada

b) Hockey Saskatchewan Licensee

Recognized by Hockey Saskatchewan in these categories: power skating, skills, power skating, skills, checking, developing defence, goaltending.

Attend a Hockey Saskatchewan Professional Development training session

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MHA Matching Grant

c) CanPower Skate - Delivered by Skate Canada

d) Hockey Saskatchewan Skills Coach Level

e) Hockey Saskatchewan Skating Coach (**NOW CLOSED**)

Certification clinics held on September 27 in Saskatoon and on October 4 in Caronport.

Course material will be from Hockey Canada; Skating 1a, Skating 1 & Skating 2.

Ice sessions to target, edges, striding & transitions.

Additional class sessions include: use of technology, skill progressions & skill analysis.

10 lesson plans are being developed for attendees.

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Where Fun Wins!

Where Fun Wins (WFW) Initiative!

This initiative started at the beginning of the 2024-25 season to promote the first three age groups, or first six to seven years of a young boy or girls introduction to the game.

Hockey Saskatchewan wants to promote the fact that for someone to continue in an activity they not simply need to learn how to skate and all the skills of hockey, they need to have FUN! If they have FUN, there is a greater chance they will stay in the game and enjoy everything the game can provide them.

We ask that everyone visit the Where Fun Wins homepage on the Hockey Saskatchewan website along with each of the individual age group webpages through the following links:

- **WFW Homepage:** <https://hockeysask.ca/where-fun-wins>
- **WFW Under-7:** <https://hockeysask.ca/where-funwins/under-7>
- **WFW Under-9:** <https://hockeysask.ca/where-fun-wins/under-9>
- **WFW Under-11:** <https://hockeysask.ca/where-fun-wins/under-11>

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Phase 2 of Where Fun Wins!

Hockey Saskatchewan has expanded the 'Where Fun Wins' Initiative into **Under-13 hockey** – a key step in the player journey.

- Focus remains on fun, development, and inclusion, while introducing new challenges:
 - Full-ice play
 - Provincial Playoffs
 - AA Hockey Pathways

Players can experience hockey through 3 branches:

- Recreational
- Competitive
- Off-Ice Wins

WFW Under-13: <https://hockeysask.ca/where-fun-wins/under-13-u13>

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AGE DIVISION VALUE STATEMENT

UNDER-13



Progressive and inclusive, Under-13 players will focus on continued skill development while increasing the emphasis on team play and tactics. Programs are designed for recreational and competitive league play.



Under-9 (U9) Hockey

The topic of U9 hockey has been one of a lot of discussion over the past number of years.

Across the country every Branch of Hockey Canada has had varying regulations to govern U9 hockey, and every Branch has unique features that differ from the recommendations of Hockey Canada. The main U9 areas of discussion are:

- The use of Half-ice all year or a transition at some point in the year to Full-ice.
- What is the better game structure option for the development of players aged 7 and 8 – Half-Ice or Full-Ice for games?
- When should games begin in the fall.

There have been a few pilot projects conducted across Canada to research what the best options are and there will be further discussion nationally regarding any potential changes to game structure however the research clearly shows that from a developmental perspective, the Half-Ice game structure is a better option for all players from the perspective of puck touches; passes attempted and completed; shots and shots on goal; less time standing around.

Hockey Saskatchewan is conducting its own review in regards regarding its regulations of when U9 and Under-11 teams can begin games. The current philosophy is to begin the year with a “development season” where the focus is not on games but rather skating and skill development. The problem throughout our province is hockey starts at different times in rural settings versus more urban settings along with communities with natural ice versus artificial ice which leads to various lengths of the “development season.”

We will be sure to update the membership on any changes in the next few months!

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Under-9 Hockey

For information purposes, the following are examples around the world of when Full-ice hockey is allowed within minor hockey:

Transition from Half-ice Hockey to Full-ice Hockey – International Standards:

- **Sweden:** Under-13 (12-year-olds)
- **Czechia:** Under-13 (12-year-olds)
- **Finland:** Under-13 (12-year-olds)
- **Switzerland:** Under-13 (12-year-olds)
- **Germany:** Under-13 (12-year-olds)
- **Denmark:** Under-13 (12-year-olds)
- **United States:** 10 and Under (10-year-olds)

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Culture & Inclusion

Minor Association & League Resources

1. [Safe Environments Intervention Planning](#)
2. [Tournament Host Resource Guide](#)
3. [In-Game Public Address Announcement Recordings](#)
4. Policy & Articles reviews and recommendations

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Culture & Inclusion

NEW Building Resiliency in Today's Youth Through Sport

- Hockey Saskatchewan webinar series led by Kyle McDonald
- Designed for athletes, parents/guardians, coaches, officials, and sport administrators
- Focus on practical tools to manage stress, build confidence, and support positive sport experiences
- Progressive Zoom series with sessions recorded for later viewing

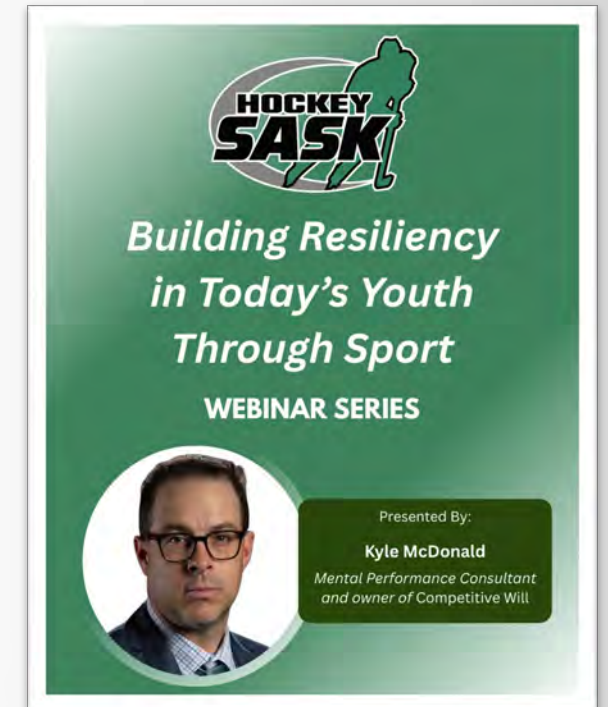
Module 1 | Mondays at 7:00 PM

- Session 1: January 19
- Session 2: February 2
- Session 3: February 16
- Session 4: March 2

REGISTRATION: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/xSD1pd_XQimKxstoGowB-Q#/registration

Making hockey even more fun by learning to manage stress, as families, and as athletes.

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Registration

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Hockey Saskatchewan Registration

❖ Important Dates HERE: <https://hockeysask.ca/members/governance/important-dates>

January 9-11, 2026

- 2nd Carded Weekend for Under-9 and Under-11

January 10, 2026

- Final date for players to be released and be eligible to register with another team
- Final date teams may apply to register for the season
- Final date to which additions can be made to any affiliation (AP) list





Registration

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2025-26 SGI CANANA Provincial Playoffs

- Provincial orientation with each provincial team occurred on January 5th and 6th
- Provincial packages sent out to each provincial team on January 12th
- Provincials cannot start until January 20th at the earliest





Coaching Certification

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*****Reminder to ALL Minor Hockey Teams in Provincials, all registered team staff must have the correct certifications to participate, this includes our provincial AA & AAA Leagues*****





Coaching Certification

Hockey Saskatchewan shared information with all Minor Hockey Association (MHA) Presidents on how to build reports to keep tabs on all teams/coaches to have all the required certifications.

Certification Cart

- This lists all the accepted certifications (old & new)

Hockey Saskatchewan Team Staff Certifications

- This document has all the certification requirements for each age group and each team staff role

Verify Individual Qualifications

- This document will help you verify all INDIVIDUAL certifications using the HCR TEAMS Verify

How to Create Safety – Goaltending Deficiency Report

- Build a reports on all teams in your MHA
- Can be filtered by age group

Respect in Sport Information (Frequently Asked Questions)

- If your team staff are missing the Respect in Sport certificate on their hockey profile, it helps you

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Coach Mentorship Program

Coach Mentorship Program:

We are looking to support Minor Hockey Associations who operate their own Coach Mentorship Program with training, resources & finances.

We have expanded our mentorship to include Under-7, Under-9 & Under-11.

Do you have a person that would be a great candidate to fill a mentor role?

Contact Hockey Saskatchewan's Senior Coaching Coordinator Blaine Stork (blaines@hockeysask.ca).

Hockey Saskatchewan will support your own Coach Mentorship Program in the following ways:

- Financial support: Hockey Saskatchewan's formula for payment example → (# of U7 teams) x (2 visits per team) x \$75.
- Hockey Saskatchewan will provide one (1) Hockey Canada Network App code to each of your U7 team's head coaches.
- Mentor Training:
 - In these areas: Hockey Canada Skating 1, Skills 1, Hockey Canada Network App, planning, Facilitator, CanPowerSkate, communication skills, coach evaluation, National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) Mentorship.

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Officiating Development Program

2025-26 Referee and Linesperson Certification Deadline has passed!

- 3,360 Officials certified.
- Officials NOT certified can not work games moving forward.
- Ensure that officials are certified otherwise associations may be fined, similar to coaching fines, if officials are working games who are not certified.

Here is the link to check the certification status of your local officials:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1NPjP5yhpO2wYr9wgzEQ_hF6Ilk4k1ldz7qAYrHSnbQ/edit?usp=sharing

- **Thanks Stripes Weekend – January 2-4, 2026**
 - Thanks to all the communities who took part in the annual #ThanksStripes Weekend.

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Officiating Development Program

- **Sask First Officials Program Registration is Open**

Sask First Female and Male Under-18 Camp registration is now open.

<https://hockeysask.ca/officials/sask-first-officiating>

- **NEW: Officiating Buddy System**
 - Through this new program, “Buddies” are starting to be matched up with mentors to provide support for Level 1 officials. Please encourage officials interested to get signed up as soon as possible.

Official Buddy System: <https://hockeysask.ca/officials/programs/officials-coaching--mentorship>

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Grassroots Programming

Developing Defence & Growing Goaltending Sessions

INFO & REGISTRATION HERE:

- DEVELOPING DEFENCE LINK → [HockeySask.ca/programs/development-programs/developing-defencemen](https://hockeysask.ca/programs/development-programs/developing-defencemen)

The defender sessions are now complete. There were 22 sessions held throughout the province with 433 players in attendance.

- GROWING GOALTENDING LINK → <https://hockeysask.ca/programs/development-programs/goaltending>

Upcoming Session:

- Naicam - January 30

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Grassroots Programming

Under-7 Cross-Ice Jamboree & Under-9 Half-Ice Celebrations are Underway!

If you are thinking about hosting an event, please reach out to your Minor Hockey Association (MHA) president or email Hockey Saskatchewan's Senior Grassroots Coordinator, Matt Miller, at mattm@hockeysask.ca.

Under-7 Cross-Ice Jamborees:

Lumsden - January 18 (Under-7 Lions)

Under-9 Cross-Ice Celebrations:

Goodsoil - January 17

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Grassroots Programming

Female Festivals (Under-9 to Under-11)

Registration is open and here are the 2025-26 season dates and locations.

- March 13-14 in Davidson

LINK → <https://hockeysask.ca/programs/female-programs/female-festivals>

Female Futures (Under-13)

Dates Confirmed for the Program:

- **Skill Camp Weekend:** April 24-26, 2026, in Regina
- **Tournament Weekend:** May 8-10, 2026, in Regina

Registration is currently open and will close April 10th, 2026.

LINK → <https://hockeysask.ca/programs/female-programs/female-futures>

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Grassroots Programming

Male Under-11 Combine

We are currently working on dates and locations. Stay tuned to our website and social media channels for more information.

NEW: Male Under-13 Prospects

Another brand-new grassroots program will begin in the spring of 2026. Male U13 Prospects will mirror the Female Futures program with a camp and tournament weekend.

- Registration for this program is full; however, there is a waitlist available.

Dates Confirmed:

- Camp: April 3-5, 2026 (Regina)
- Tournament: April 10-12, 2026 (Regina)

LINK → <https://hockeysask.ca/programs/development-programs/sask-first-male-under-13-u13-prospects>

*Stay tuned to our website for more information on these new programs in the next few months.

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Sask First (High Performance)

Sask First try-outs and recruitment are underway for the **2027 Canada Winter Games** in Quebec City!

Sask First High-performance Programs:

- Team Saskatchewan Female Under-18 Players – [Info and Application](#)
- Team Saskatchewan Male Under-16 Players - (Registration closed)
- Team Saskatchewan Coaches & Bench Staff - (Registration closed)

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Sask First (High Performance)

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Sask First Programming Dates For 2025-26 Season

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR 4 PROGRAMS: <https://hockeysask.ca/programs/sask-first>

Sask First High-performance Programs:

- Female Under-16
- Female Under-18
- Male Under-15 (Registration Closed)
- Male Under-18
- Para Hockey (All Ages)

January 2026

- January 16th – Registration Deadline for Male U18, Female U16/U18 (\$150.00)
- January 23rd – Registration Deadline for Male U18, Female U16/U18 with late fee (\$200.00)





Sask First (High Performance)

Sask First Programming Dates For 2025-26 Season

February 2026

- January 30 - February 1, 2026 – Male U18 (born 2010, 2009, 2008) Regional Camps in Lumsden & Aberdeen.
- January 30 - February 1, 2026 – Female U18 (born 2009/2010) Provincial Camp in Southey.
- January 30 - February 1, 2026 – Female U16 (born 2011/2012) Regional Camps in Pense & Dalmeny.
- February 13-15, 2026 – Male U15 (born 2011) Top 80 Tournament in Balgonie.

April 2026

- April 3-5, 2026 – Female U16 (born 2011/2012) Top 136 Tournament in Regina.
- April 10-12, 2026 – Female U18 (born 2009/2010) Top 80 Tournament in Balgonie.
- April 10-12, 2026 – Male U18 (born 2010, 2009, 2008) Top 160 Tournament in Regina.

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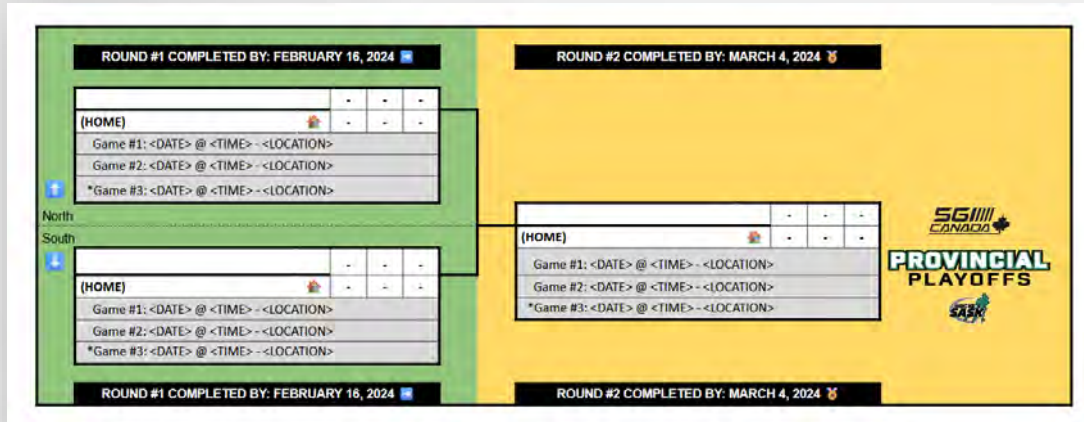




SGI CANADA Provincial Playoffs

Provincial Playoffs are a cherished tradition and one of the most anticipated events for hockey in the province. In the 2025-26 season, around 300 teams from across the province will compete in age divisions ranging from Under-13 to Senior. Starting in late January, teams will face off in regional matchups, with winners advance through the rounds until champions are crowned by late March.

- Provincial Playoff Hub: <https://hockeysask.ca/events/provincials>
- Past Provincial Champions: <https://hockeysask.ca/events/provincials/past-provincial-champions>
- Brackets via Hockey Sask. App: Downloadable for free from the [App Store](#) and [Google Play](#)



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Hockey Day in Saskatchewan

Hockey Day in Saskatchewan (HDIS) is coming to Avonlea as the village has been chosen to host the 18th edition of the multi-day celebration from January 14 to 18, 2026.

The community will take centre ice on Saturday, January 17, 2026, for the official Hockey Day in Saskatchewan, with a full lineup of events and celebrations to be announced in the coming months. The marquee matchups scheduled at Avonlea Memorial Rink include:

- **1:00 PM – Male Under-18 AAA:** Regina Pat Canadians vs. Notre Dame Hounds
- **4:00 PM – Female Under-18 AAA:** Regina Rebels vs. Notre Dame Hounds
- **7:00 PM – Male Under-18 AAA:** Moose Jaw Warriors vs. Saskatoon Contacts

Proceeds are earmarked to help fund upgrades to Avonlea Memorial Rink, including three modern dressing rooms, a referee room, a dryland training area, and expanded parking. The host's project includes plans to provide inclusive spaces for female players, modern facilities for senior teams and officials, and off-ice training opportunities for athletes.

- ❖ The 2027 Hockey Day in Saskatchewan will be hosted in Zone 7, with applications being accepted in March 2026.

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World Junior 50/50

Hockey Saskatchewan's World Juniors 50/50 – Complete

- Thank you to hockey fans across Saskatchewan for supporting grassroots hockey
- Proceeds of \$55,600 will support Minor Hockey Associations through the MHA Matching Grant Program

50/50 Jackpots (Winners Receive Half):

- **Draw #1 on Dec. 26, 2025: \$29,375.00**
Winning Number: 99000068144 *(Prize Claimed)*
- **Draw #2 on Dec. 31, 2025: \$35,250.00**
Winning Number: 99001150044 *(Prize Claimed)*
- **Draw #3 on Jan. 5, 2026: \$46,575.00**
Winning Number: 99001338547 *(Prize Claimed)*

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Saskatchewan at Winter Olympics!

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Congratulations to Saskatchewan's Olympic representatives heading to Italy!

Carrying the pride of our province, these athletes and officials will compete at the 2026 Olympic Winter Games, taking place from February 6 to 22 in Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy. Their dedication, skill, and commitment exemplify the best of Saskatchewan on hockey's biggest stage.

Officials

- Referee Cianna Murray (Cudworth)
- Referee Michelle McKenna (Moose Jaw)
- Linesperson Alex Clarke (Drake)
- Linesperson Tarrington Wyonzek (Yorkton)

Athletes

- **Men's Hockey Team**
 - Goalie Darcy Kuemper (Saskatoon)
- **Women's Hockey Team**
 - Forward Emily Clark (Saskatoon)





Hockey Saskatchewan Awards

Nominate for the 2025-26 Hockey Saskatchewan Awards!

The Hockey Saskatchewan Awards are given annually to volunteers, coaches and Minor Hockey Associations in recognition of their efforts in promoting and improving the game of hockey within the province.

The following four (4) awards are given out:

- Outstanding Coach - [Nomination Form](#)
- Outstanding North Volunteer (Zones 5-8) - [Nomination Form](#)
- Outstanding South Volunteer (Zones 1-4) - [Nomination Form](#)
- Minor Hockey Association of Distinction - [Nomination Form](#)

PAST WINNERS: <https://hockeysask.ca/about/awards>

DEADLINE TO APPLY IS APRIL 15th, 2026.

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THANK YOU FOR WATCHING!

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT

PHONE: 306-789-5101

EMAIL: VISIT THE HOCKEY SASKATCHEWAN STAFF PAGE AT
www.HockeySask.ca/about/staff

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