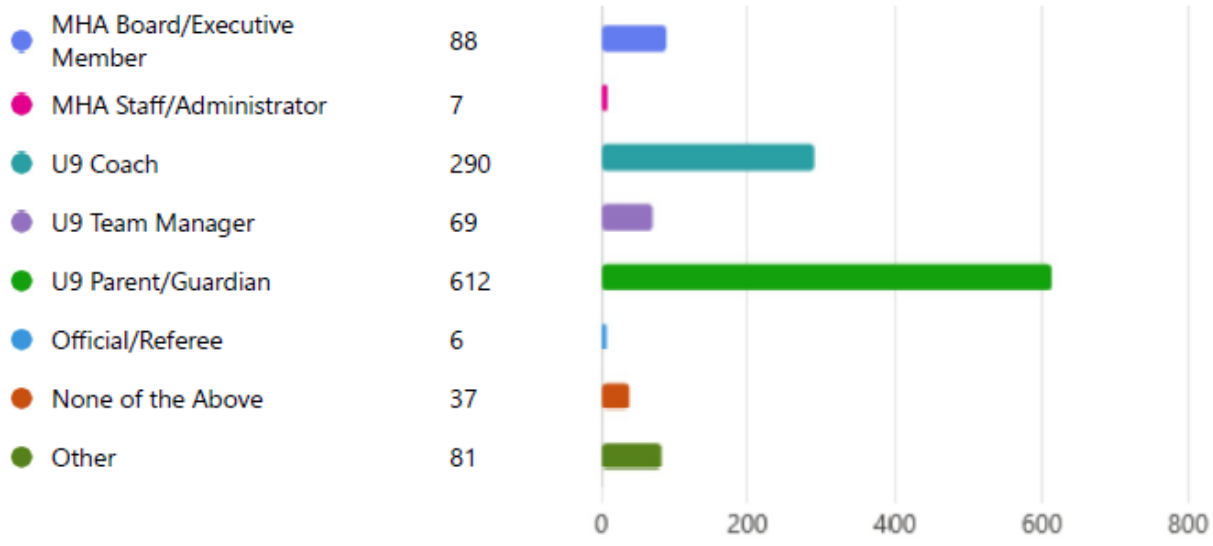
Hockey Saskatchewan: U9 Hockey Member Consultation Survey

- Date Opened: September 14, 2026
- Date Closed: September 25, 2026

Responses Overview

Responses	Average Time	Duration
1190	16:40	14 Days

1) What is your primary role within U9 hockey?

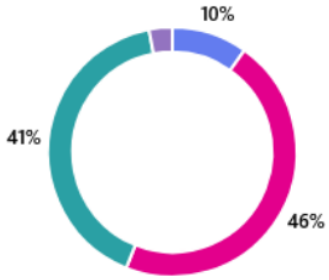


2) Which Minor Hockey Association are you associated with?

Association	Responses
Saskatoon Minor Hockey Association	159
Hockey Regina	74
Estevan Minor Hockey	43
Prairie Storm Minor Hockey Association	41
Moose Jaw Minor Hockey	29
Yorkton Minor Hockey	22
Tisdale Minor Hockey Association	21
Weyburn Minor Hockey	21
Prince Albert Hockey	20
Kindersley Minor Hockey	19
Wynyard Minor Hockey	19
Battlefords Minor Hockey Association	18
Quad Town Minor Hockey Association	18
Melfort Minor Hockey Association	16
Melville Minor Hockey	16
Southey Minor Hockey	13
Bengough Minor Hockey	12
Biggar Minor Hockey	12
Meadow Lake Minor Hockey	12
Rosetown Minor Hockey Association	12
Avonlea Minor Hockey	11
Cupar Minor Hockey	11
Lumsden / Bethune Minor Hockey Association	11
Elrose Minor Hockey	10
Indian Head Minor Hockey	10
Montmartre Minor Hockey	10
Moosomin Minor Hockey	10
Swift Current Minor Hockey	10
Wadena Minor Sports	10
Associations with <10 responses or Anonymous	+590
Total	1,190

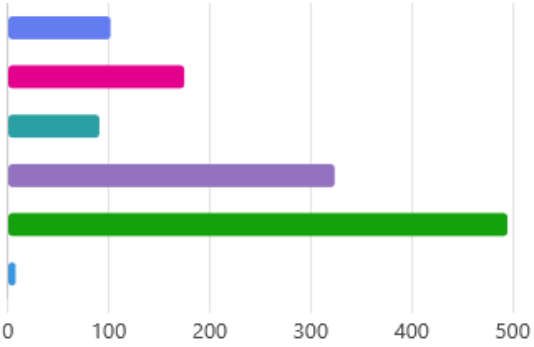
3) How many seasons have you been involved with U9 hockey?

This is my first season	117
2nd season	550
Have completed U9 hockey	487
Going into U9 hockey next season	36



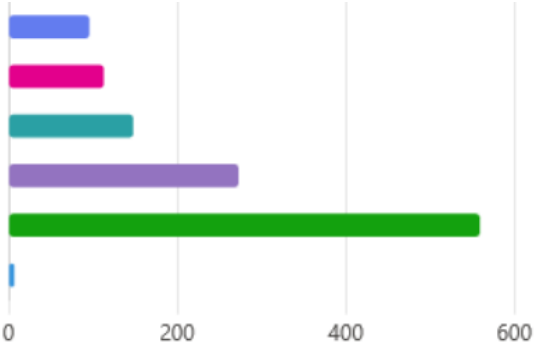
4) Overall, how satisfied are you with the current U9 half-ice hockey model?

Very satisfied	101
Somewhat satisfied	174
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	90
Somewhat dissatisfied	323
Very dissatisfied	494
Unsure	7



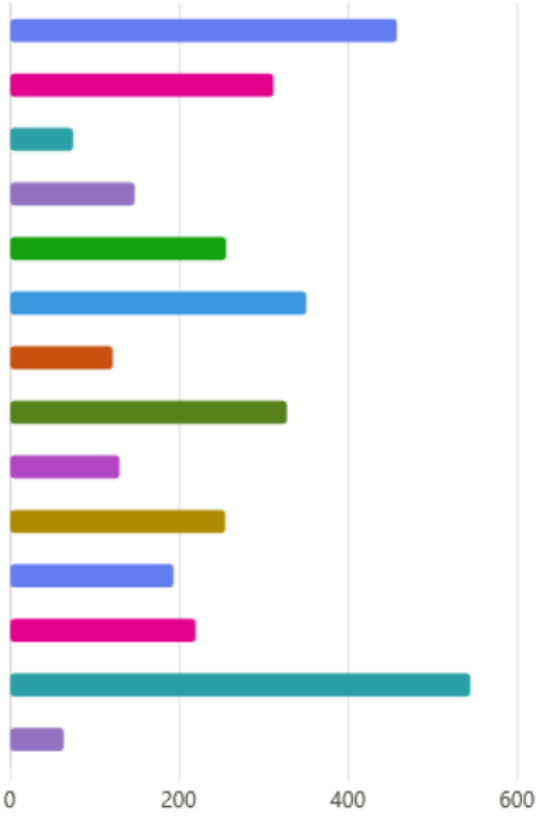
5) How strongly do you support continuing with the current U9 half-ice model?

Strongly support	95
Support	112
Neutral	147
Oppose	272
Strongly Oppose	558
Unsure	6



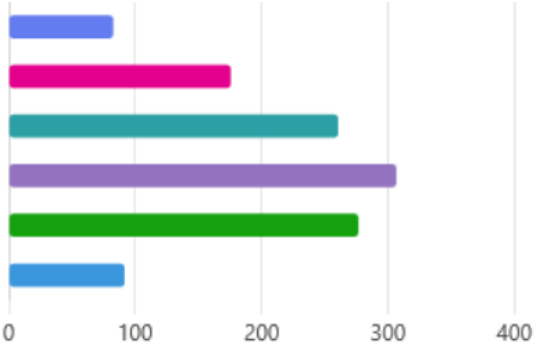
6) In your experience, what are the biggest benefits of half-ice hockey for U9 players?

More puck touches	457
Increased player engagement	311
More skating opportunities	74
More opportunities to make decisions with the puck	147
Increased shooting/scoring opportunities	255
More opportunities for players to be actively involved	350
Better development of individual skills	121
Better development of small-area game skills	327
More enjoyable experience for players	129
Better use of available ice	254
The ice size is age-appropriate for players	193
Allows more players to participate	219
I do not see significant benefits	544
Other	63



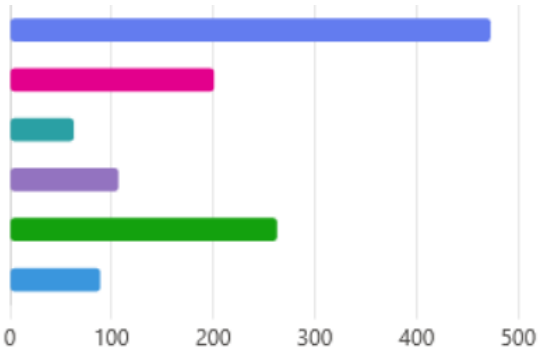
7) Based on your experience, has the U9 half-ice model improved the overall hockey experience for younger players?

Significantly improved	82
Somewhat improved	175
No significant change	260
Somewhat worse	306
Significantly worse	276
Unsure	91



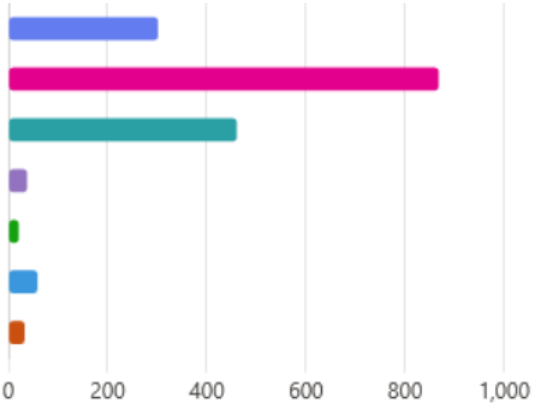
8) How frequently does your U9 program use half-ice for practices?

Every practice	472
Most practices	200
About half of our practices	62
Occasionally	106
We do not currently use half-ice for practices	262
Unsure	88



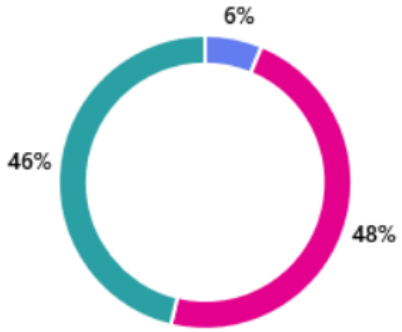
9) What rink equipment does your community typically use to divide the ice?

Rink dividers/barriers	300
Half-ice boards	866
Foam barriers	459
Cones	36
Existing rink boards	19
Combination of rink equipment	57
Other	31

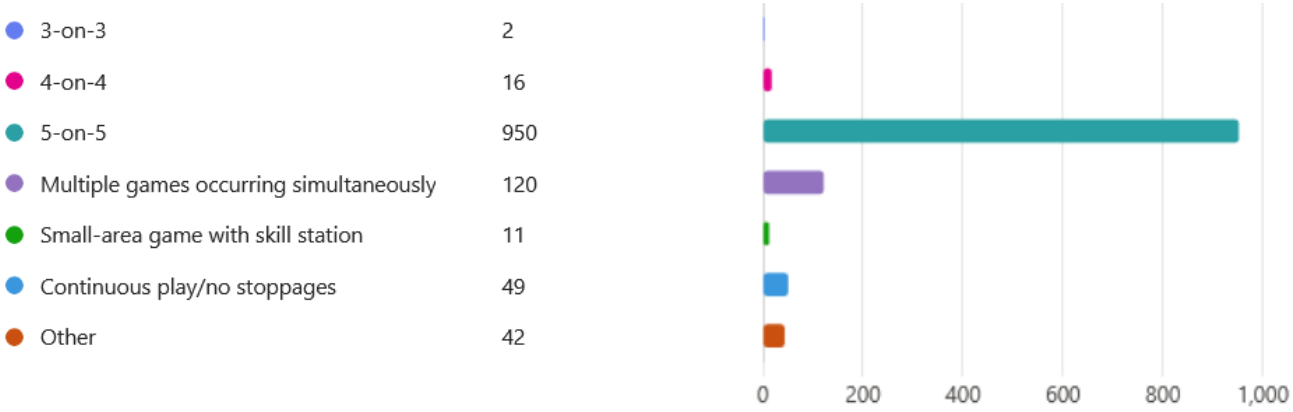


10) Are there differences between how your MHA intends U9 hockey to be delivered and how it is actually being delivered on the ice?

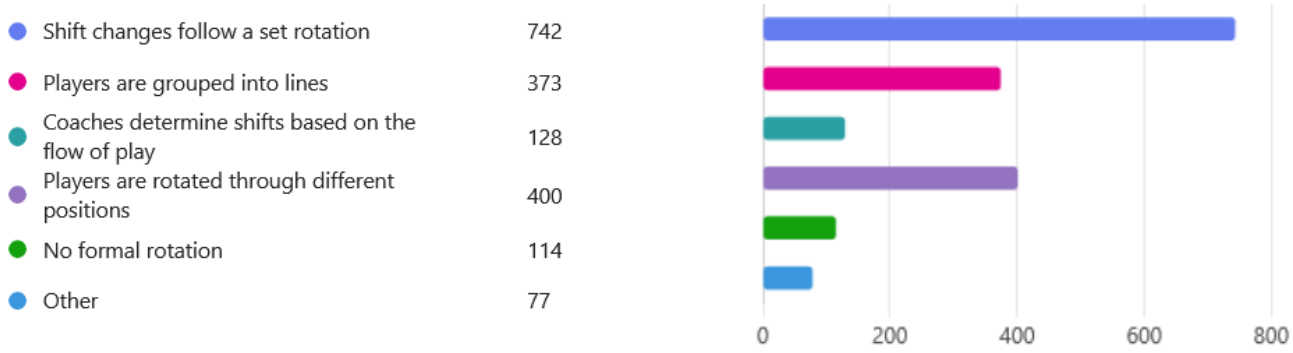
Yes	75
No	565
Unsure	550



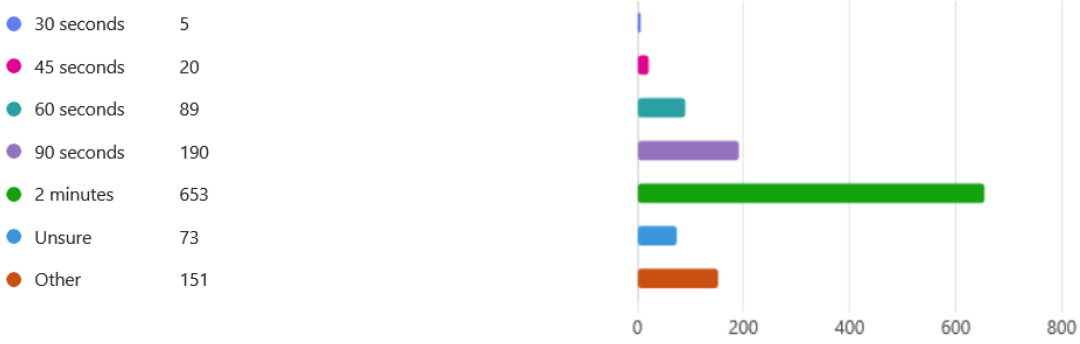
11) How are your U9 games typically structured in your community?



12) How are players typically rotated during U9 games?

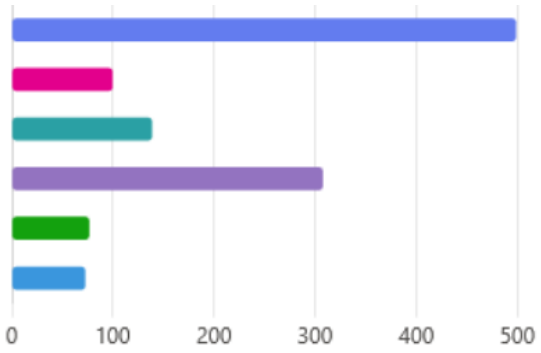


13) If yes, what shift length do you feel is most appropriate for U9 players in games?



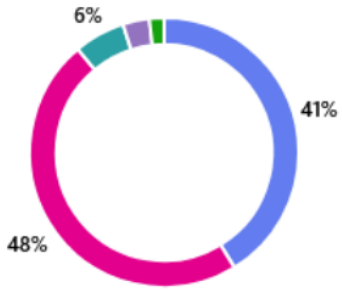
14) How should face-offs be handled during U9 games?

Face-off after every goal	498
Face-off at the beginning of each period	99
Face-off at designated locations following stoppages	138
Face-off at the beginning of each shift	307
No preference	76
Other	72



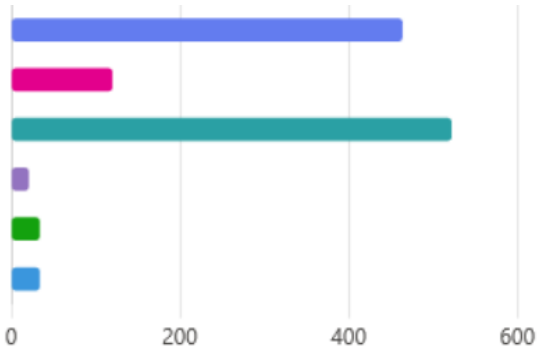
15) Should U9 games have a formal system for penalties?

Yes, with penalties administered similarly to older divisions	491
Yes, but using modified U9 procedures	567
No formal penalties, with coaches managing infractions	73
No preference	38
Unsure	21



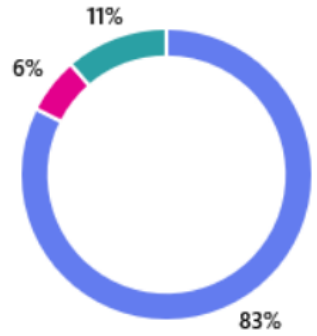
16) If penalties are used, what do you believe is the most appropriate procedure?

Player serves time in a designated penalty area	463
Player goes to team bench but another player replaces them for the shift	119
Player goes to team bench and the team plays short-handed for the shift	521
Coach manages the infraction without a formal penalty by instructing the player	20
Unsure	33
Other	33



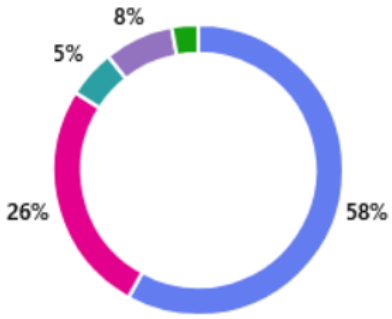
17) Should Hockey Saskatchewan establish standardized procedures for common penalties at the U9 age division?

Yes	981
No	74
Unsure	135



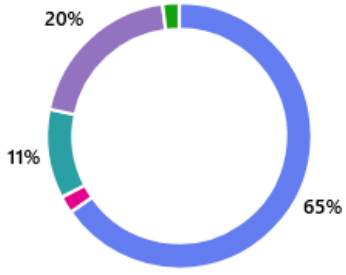
18) What size nets are currently being used for U9 half-ice games in your community?

Full-size nets	690
Junior nets	309
Small-area nets	64
Various sizes	92
Other	35



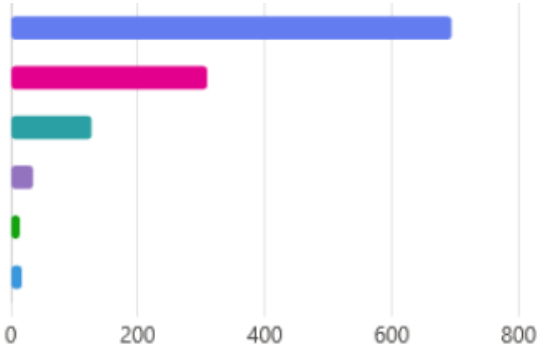
19) How are nets typically positioned for U9 half-ice games in your community?

Nets are placed at the standard half-ice positions	776
Nets are placed inside the blue lines	25
Nets are positioned according to available ice/facility	129
Varies by rink	235
Other	24



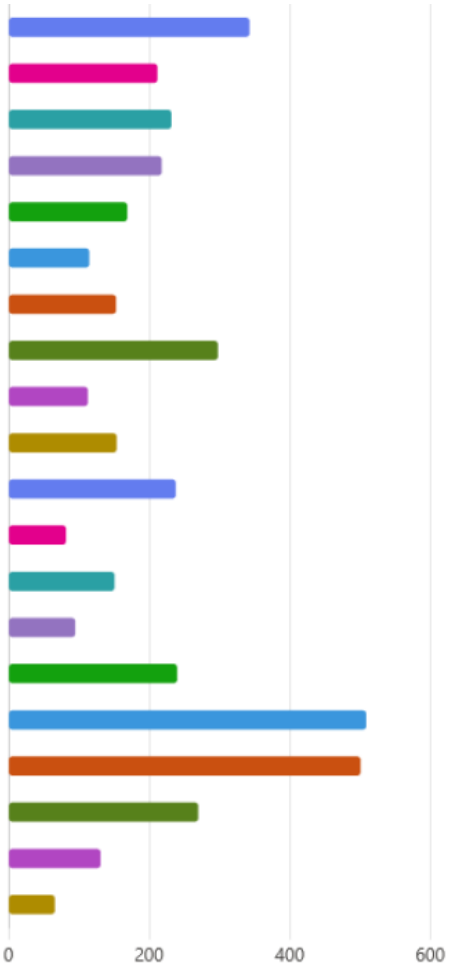
20) How important is consistency in U9 playing rules and procedures from one community to another?

Very important	693
Somewhat important	308
Neutral	126
Not very important	34
Not important at all	13
Unsure	16



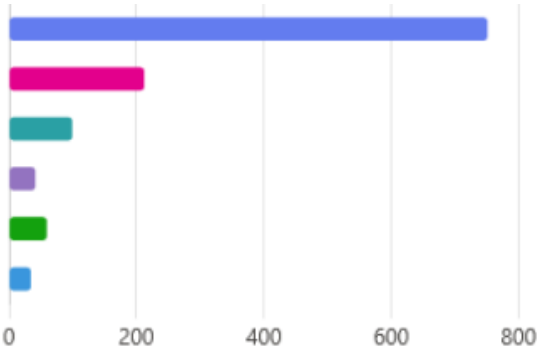
21) What are the biggest challenges your community faces when delivering U9 half-ice hockey?

Ice availability	342
Cost of ice time	211
Scheduling	231
Number of players	217
Number of teams	168
Number of coaches	114
Coach education/understanding	152
Parent expectations	297
Player expectations	112
Facility limitations	153
Boards/dividers	237
Nets/equipment	81
Game organization	150
Practice organization	94
Keeping players engaged	239
Balancing player development and competition	508
Transitioning players between age divisions	500
Communicating the purpose of half-ice hockey	269
We do not experience significant challenges	130
Other	65



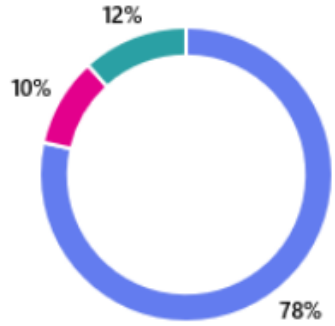
22) Would you support Hockey Saskatchewan exploring a limited number of full-ice U9 weekends?

Strongly support	750
Support	211
Neutral	98
Oppose	40
Strongly oppose	58
Unsure	33



23) Would you support the use of U9 full-ice weekends on the Carded Weekends in January, February, March where U9 games could be played full-ice?

Yes	934
No	117
Other	139



24) What do you believe would be the primary benefits of occasional U9 full-ice weekends?

Exposure to full-ice hockey	1023
Player development	913
Preparing players for Under-11	1013
Increased competition	627
Providing a different hockey experience	588
Allowing teams to evaluate their progress	458
Opportunity to participate in larger events	378
I do not see significant benefits	85
Other	62

