

CHIP Program FAQ's

Q. My child and I are new to the game of hockey, what does my child need to play?

A. Your kids will need an athletic supporter (jock or jill), garter belt, shin pads, pants, skates, elbow pads, shoulder pads, neck guard, helmet and mouth guard. **The neck guard and mouth guard are very important as your child will not be allowed on the ice without them.**

Q. Will shirts and hockey socks be provided?

A. Tim Horton's is kind enough to provide jerseys and socks for the whole CHIP group that the kids are able to keep at the end of the season.

Q. What days are the practices?

A. Some time Saturday and Sunday morning.

Q. What time should I be at the arena before practice?

A. Please be there with the child ready to go on ice at least 5 minutes before practice. **Ice time is at a premium and the coaches will want to get the kids into skill development drills as soon as possible.**

Q. Do you need any volunteers to help on the ice?

A. YES ABSOLUTELY!, the CHIPS program as well as the whole minor hockey program is run solely by unpaid volunteers and parents. The success of the program is dependent on these people. Generally the groups will number between 40 to 50 kids on the ice at one time! As someone who has been involved for 2 years now I have learned that the more helping hands on the ice, the easier it becomes for everyone. Coaches are more willing to help out when there is a good group of parent volunteers that can keep the kids focused and occupied.

Q. What do I need to do to be able to help out?

A. You will need a pair of skates, gloves, helmet and a smile on your face. There will be a background check that will need to be completed and an on-line "respect in sport" activity leader program.

Q. What are the most important things that make a good CHIP program?

A. Glad you asked! The following items are FUNdamental for a good program

- **HAVING FUN:** we need to instill an interest and enjoyment in the game of hockey, and a desire for kids to want to continue participating in this great sport
- **SKILL DEVELOPMENT:** we need to provide a positive learning environment for the kids to learn, develop and understand the basic fundamental skills of the game
- **SELF-ESTEEM:** we need to develop positive self-esteem in the kids through a sense of achievement and recognition of performance improvement – big or small
- **TEAM CONCEPT:** we need to teach the foundation of a “Team” and what being a good team-mate means
- **COMMUNITY INVOLVMENT:** we need to develop a sense of pride and ownership in the local community to help build strong citizens and future leaders