



U11 HOCKEY ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT PILOT – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

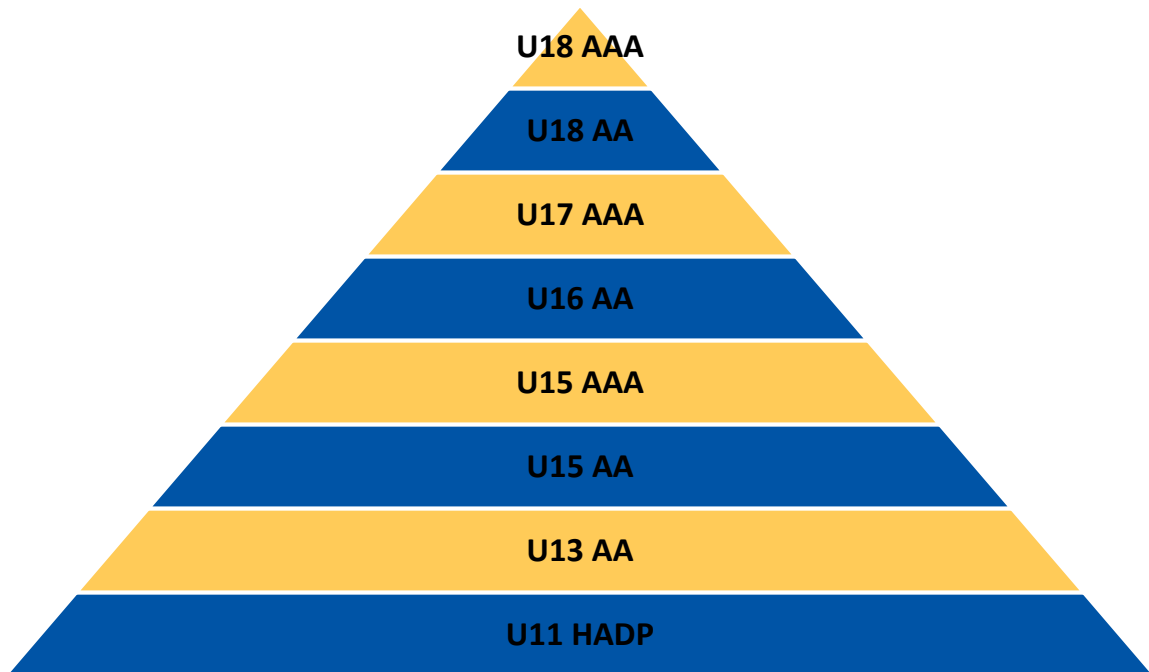
This FAQ document has been created to assist Minor Hockey Associations in the planning and implementation of the U11 Hockey Alberta Development Pilot (U11 HADP) for the 2022-2023 hockey season.

1. Does the U11 HADP utilize Draw Zones or Recruitment Areas?

No, the U11 HADP does not utilize Draw Zones or Recruitment Areas. Players who reside outside of a U11 HADP host MHA are eligible to set up their one (1) U11 HADP tryout with any U11 HADP host MHA, should that MHA be accepting tryouts from players outside their association.

2. Why did Hockey Alberta determine 11+ U11 teams during the 2021-2022 hockey season as the mark to require an association to host two (2) U11 HADP teams?

One of the key objectives of the U11 HADP is to align the proposed top level of U11 with the AA Hockey Mode and Tiered Alberta One system to ensure a proper development pyramid and feeder system is developed. There are currently 51 U13 AA teams, while the U11 HADP currently sits at 57 teams pending applications.



3. Do MHAs not initially selected to host a U11 HADP have the ability to host a team?

Yes, MHAs that were not initially awarded a U11 HADP in the initial announcement can apply to Hockey Alberta prior to July 1st for expansion consideration to host a U11 HADP team. MHAs interested in making an application should ensure they provide all relevant information to support their request, including current and historical U11 registration numbers, league history and letters of support from surrounding MHAs. All decisions on expansions will be rendered by July 8th.



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4. Do MHAs initially selected to host an U11 HADP team(s) have the ability to apply to host more teams or fewer teams than what was originally indicated?

Yes, MHAs that were awarded a U11 HADP team(s) in the initial announcement have the ability to submit an application to either expand or retract the number of teams they operate within the U11 HADP. MHAs interested in making an application should ensure they provide all relevant information to support their request, including current and historical U11 registration numbers, league history and letters of support from surrounding MHAs. All decisions on expansions and reductions will be rendered by July 8th.

5. I currently reside within an MHA that will be hosting a U11 HADP team. Am I required to tryout with that U11 HADP team(s), or am I able to tryout with a team from another MHA?

Players that reside within an MHA that will be hosting a U11 HADP team are required to tryout for the U11 HADP within their home MHA. These players are not eligible to have a tryout with a U11 HADP team from another MHA.

6. Are U11 HADP host MHAs required to accept all players from outside of their association who inquire on a U11 HADP tryout?

No, U11 HADP host MHAs are not required or forced to accept players from outside of their Association on a U11 HADP tryout. However, every player who has the skill to potentially play U11 HADP should be provided the opportunity to tryout with an U11 HADP team.

7. Do U11 HADP host MHAs have to host the four (4) prep skates required for players from outside the MHA that are accepted for U11 HADP tryout?

U11 HADP host MHAs are encouraged to provide all players trying out for their U11 HADP team with the four (4) prep skates as indicated in the [U11 Player Pathway](#). Associations can use the four (4) prep skates as an opportunity to market their program to participants outside their association as well.

8. Can my resident MHA withhold me from partaking in a tryout with a U11 HADP team?

No, MHAs cannot withhold a player's ability to tryout with a U11 HADP team. Should a player reside in an MHA that is not hosting a U11 HADP team, that MHA must allow that player the ability to set up a tryout with an MHA that is hosting a U11 HADP. If the player is unsuccessful in their U11 HADP tryout, they would return home to their resident MHA.

9. What paperwork is required if I reside in an MHA that is not hosting a U11 HADP team, but I have set up a tryout with an MHA hosting a U11 HADP team(s)?

For any players that reside in an MHA that is not hosting a U11 HADP team, but have set up a tryout with an MHA hosting a U11 HADP team(s), the [U11 HADP Notification of Tryout Form](#) must be filled out and submitted to the U11 HADP host MHA.



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10. If I am released from a U11 HADP tryout, am I eligible to have a second tryout with another MHA hosting a U11 HADP team?

No, players are only eligible for one (1) U11 HADP tryout only. There will be no second tryouts allowed within the U11 HADP.

11. Should U11 HADP Evaluations take place separately from other U11 evaluations, or can they be held together?

As U11 HADP is a division of play above the tiered system of U11, Hockey Alberta strongly recommends that MHAs hosting U11 HADP teams separate those evaluations from the rest of their U11 evaluations.

12. The 2021-2022 U11 AA Pilot Project operated using weekend on / weekend off tournament style scheduling. Will the four (4) U11 HADP Leagues be using similar scheduling?

Each League operating U11 HADP will be working with their member MHAs immediately once the final team listing is communicated to determine the scheduling format that works best for all member associations and provides flexibility for the participants. This may include weekend on / weekend off tournament scheduling, or a hybrid approach. Leagues and Associations should get creative in making their schedule to eliminate unnecessary travel when possible.

13. Will U11 HADP teams undergo a Tiering Round within League Play?

No, U11 HADP Teams will not undergo a Tiering Round. Once U11 HADP teams are finalized and rostered, the Development Phase of the [U11 Player Pathway](#) can begin, with teams eligible to schedule Exhibition Games and start Regular Season play.

14. Will a U11 HADP team be eligible to move down into U11 Tier 1 later on into the season?

No, once the final team listing is finalized and the teams begins their U11 HADP tryouts, they will be ineligible to be removed from the U11 HADP and moved into U11 Tier 1. For the purposes of the U11 HADP, Hockey Alberta wants to gather as much information as possible to properly evaluate the Pilot Project and determine the direction moving forward into the 2023-2024 season.

15. Will the results, feedback and information gathered from the U11 HADP be used to review other divisions and categories of hockey?

Yes, Hockey Alberta will be using the results, feedback and information gathered from the U11 HADP to not only evaluate and determine the top level of U11 hockey going forward, but to evaluate all divisions and categories of hockey (Elite, AA, Tiered, etc...).