

FAQs – FUTURES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Included in this document are answers to the following questions:

- The registration is confusing. Which registration link should I use?
- What is the purpose of the Futures Development Program?
- What is the structure of the program?
- But what about my goalie? Is this a program that can help him/her?
- Where can I locate my Futures Development Program schedule?
- Where will the program take place?
- How will I know where to play?
- Who is eligible to participate in the Futures Development Program?
- Is there a refund policy for the program?
- So, everybody who signs up can play?
- I got waitlisted. Now what?
- What if none of the questions I have were addressed here?

Q: The registration is confusing. Which registration link should I use?

In order to accommodate programming for as many players as possible, each District is operating in a fashion that best suits its local players. As such, some programs will separate their 13U and 15U players, while others may opt to combine age groups for ice sessions (though they will largely be competing and training separately). Similarly, some Districts may run Girls and Boys on separate ice sessions, while others may have Girls and Boys on the same sheet of ice to conduct practices.

The grid below should illustrate which registration link you are looking for.

	2011 & 2012 birth years		2009 & 2010 birth years	
	13U Boys	13U Girls	15U Boys	15U Girls
District 2	Registration 1 (13U Boys)	Registration 2 (13U Girls)	Registration 3 (15U Boys)	Registration 4 (15U Girls)
District 3	Registration 1 (13U Boys)	Registration 2 (13U Girls)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)
Districts 4/9 - Mankato	Registration 1 (13U Boys)	Registration 2 (13U Girls)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)
Districts 4/9 - Marshall	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)
Districts 4/9 - Winona	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)
District 5	Registration 1 (13U Boys)	Registration 2 (13U Girls)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)
District 6	Registration 1 (13U Boys)	Registration 2 (13U Girls)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)
District 8	Registration 1 (13U Boys)	Registration 2 (13U Girls)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)
District 10	Registration 1 (13U Boys)	Registration 2 (13U Girls)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)
Districts 11/12	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	N/A	N/A
District 15 - Moorhead (Boys)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	N/A	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	N/A
District 15 - Wadena (Boys)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	N/A	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	N/A
District 15 - Girls	N/A	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	N/A	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)
District 16	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)	Registration 5 (Combined/Coed)

- [Registration 1 \(13U Boys\)](#)
- [Registration 2 \(13U Girls\)](#)
- [Registration 3 \(15U Boys\) – For District 2 ONLY](#)
- [Registration 4 \(15U Girls\) – For District 2 ONLY](#)
- [Registration 5 \(Combined/Coed Programs\)](#)

Q: What is the purpose of the Futures Development Program?

Minnesota Hockey inceptioned the Futures Development Program to provide an affordable training opportunity for players of all playing backgrounds and experiences. The intention of keeping the program affordable is, in part, intended to incentivize players to feel empowered to participate in

other sports/activities without the fear of missing portions of the training/competition schedule. *Development* is at the heart of the program and really dictates the structure of the program.

Q: What is the structure of the program?

Both the 13U and 15U programs are structured similarly. Participating athletes will be provided an opportunity to access 13 hours of developmental training ice. The training ice schedule will vary by District. In addition, there will be a mid-program 3v3 jamboree and a culminating 5v5 festival. Coaches within the program will also be provided with some ancillary training and informational material to integrate into their training and development plans. This mix of intentional training, a smattering of inter-District competition, and access to best-practice information provided by USA Hockey are intended to support the primary purpose of the program: Long-Term Athlete Development. Beyond the training integrated into the program, all program participants will receive a uniform and some program swag.

Q: But what about my goalie? Is this a program that can help him/her?

Absolutely. The training and competition environments will certainly benefit players of all positional backgrounds. In addition, each set of Futures Development Program coaches are requested to have (at least) one coach specifically assigned to work with goalies. While we do not want to limit goaltending training solely to the technical mechanics of the position, we aim to ensure that all goalies have a designated point of contact within the coaching staff to touch base with regularly to support their comprehensive development within the position.

Q: Where can I locate my Futures Development Program schedule?

Minnesota Hockey has consolidated all available information on its Futures Development Program webpage. As is currently available, this will include practice locations, times, a District-specific point of contact, and hyperlink access to your District's Futures Development Program webpage. Upon registration, the Minnesota Hockey Futures Development Program is a reasonable place to ascertain practice schedules (or any currently available information). However, leading into program commencement, all families should refer ONLY to their District's webpage, as schedules may be subject to change, and those changes will be reflected on District webpages.

Q: Where will the program take place?

Each District within Minnesota Hockey is empowered to craft their Futures Development Program in a fashion so as to best serve its athletes. Some Districts will operate a program out of a single arena, some will operate a program out of multiple arenas, and some will provide multiple programs with each operating out of a separate arena. All currently known program locations and schedules have been provided on Minnesota Hockey's Futures Development Program webpage. For the mid-program 3v3 jamboree and 5v5 festivals, Districts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10 will compete at Furniture and Things Community Event Center (in Elk River), while Districts 11, 12, 15, and 16 will compete at Sanford POWER Rink (in Bemidji).

Q: How will I know where to play?

Generally speaking, you will play where you live, as defined by District boundaries. (If you live in District 10, you will participate in the District 10 program.) There are a few exceptions to this, however. For example, Districts 4 and 9 will collaboratively designate 3 different locations for their programs. In this case, participants will be able to register for whichever location is most convenient, regardless of whether that location aligns with the athlete's home District. Another example is for District 1 athletes. District 1 will *not* have its own program, so all District 1 athletes will be provided access to a neighboring District's program. (Districts 2, 3, 8 and 10 are usually the most accessible programs for District 1 athletes.)

Q: Who is eligible to participate in the Futures Development Program?

For the Spring of 2024, Minnesota Hockey will provide a 15U program and a 13U program, with both programs being available to girls and boys. This program is intended to serve athletes of specific birth years. The 15U program will be offered to players with 2009 and 2010 birth years; the 13U program will be offered to players with 2011 and 2012 birth years.

Q: Is there a refund policy for the program?

Yes. Should athletes register and later wish to withdraw from the program, Minnesota Hockey is able to provide full program refunds up to 2 weeks in advance of the official start date of the program. The official start date for the 13U program is March 25th, and the official start date for the 15U program is April 8th. (These are Minnesota Hockey's official start dates for the program, even if specific Districts may have their first practice on a different date.) One exception to this refund policy is for the 15U program. Should an athlete dual-register for their District's High Performance Program and Futures Development Program and earn a spot on the District's Phase 2 High Performance Program team (which will overlap with the Futures Development Program timeframe), the family may request a refund for the Futures Development Program, even if it is within the two-week timeframe described above. However, families must submit these requests in writing (email) to Minnesota Hockey's Hockey Programs Manager, whose contact information is located on the main webpage. Additionally, Minnesota Hockey must receive such requests within 48 hours of the family's invitation to participate in Phase 2 of the High Performance Program.

Q: So, everybody who signs up can play?

The purpose behind this program is to serve all players, regardless of playing background or experience at different levels of play. However, each District or regionalized program will have a capacity, and spots will fill on a first-come-first-serve basis. Once a capacity has been reached, additional registrants will be put on a waitlist. Waitlist registrations will *not* require any fee payments upfront.

Q: I got waitlisted. Now what?

As waitlists develop, we will reach out to all waitlisted families to provide any updates. If there are additional opportunities in nearby Districts, we will communicate that and, if families are interested in registering for another District's program, we will get those families in touch with the appropriate representatives.

Q: What if none of the questions I have were addressed here?

Should you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Minnesota Hockey's Hockey Programs Manager – Connor Clark (cclark@minnesotahockey.org; 612-840-0391).