



Weber County Youth Hockey Program Description



The Weber County Sports Complex is prepared to provide a Youth Hockey opportunity within the facility, owned & operated by Weber County. Weber County Youth Hockey is built on sustainability practices within our community that already promote our Mission through grass-roots programs that support “Buy Local, Support Local, Play Local” initiatives which create a strong economy within Weber County. WCYH can accomplish our goal of becoming Northern Utah’s premier choice for Youth Hockey by engaging in County-wide development & sustainability practices, offering solid skill development within each division and providing partnerships that create a positive atmosphere for players, coaches and families of all skill levels.

Weber County Youth Hockey aims to provide developmental experiences that players can utilize to move through Youth Hockey at a pace that meets their goals. Our program will focus heavily on individual skill development, which, as you know, is the base for all players at all levels, giving players of all ages the ability to effectively take part in practices & games, teaching comprehensive team play which includes appropriate position knowledge, systems & best-practice training habits that players can carry with them throughout their lives. WCYH is prepared to provide three levels of play for the 2020-21 season, each meeting the needs of Weber County players from brand-new beginners to highly competitive players that have spent 10+ years training in this sport. All four levels of play offer players the development necessary to reap the benefits of this unique & often overlooked sport as there are many barriers to getting started in Ice Hockey. WCYH has worked diligently to address the barriers that new families face and provide entry to a program that has clear offerings and provides a gateway to excelling.

A player can expect to choose from one of four WCYH program offerings:

- **Developmental Hockey** provides one ice touch per week (1st session August-October) for all new Weber County players and an ongoing “once a week option” all season long for players needing extra help on individual skills. The affordable 10 week August-October entry-level program is mandatory for all new players, and a great fit for



Weber County Youth Hockey Program Description



players returning to the ice that need supplementary skill development. This program will focus heavily on forward & backward mobility, introduction to passing, shooting and team strategy through station-based skills & small area games. This program will be coached by Weber County Staff Coaches as well as Ogden Mustang Tier III Junior A players from our partner organization, the Ogden Mustangs.

- **D2 House/Rec** provides two (sometimes more) ice touches per week & 15+- games mid-October-March. This team is perfect for the intro level player, or even a 2nd or 3rd year player that doesn't want to commit to hockey more than two to three days a week. At this level hockey is a fun recreational sport emphasizing learning the skills that will allow a player to be mobile on the ice as well as basic passing and shooting. This level of play is entry-level and therefore meets the needs of most beginners. Players new to the ice are encouraged to play at the D2 level until they clearly excel beyond their D2 peers and they desire a more competitive environment with more training requirements. Coaches at this level consist of volunteers that have been selected by Weber County to provide a safe, fun & enriching Youth Hockey environment for beginners that want to experience what all the hockey hype is about! One to two overnight travel days may be required over the course of the season.
- **D1 House/Rec** which may include three (sometimes more) ice touches per week with two out of State tournaments, in-State tournaments allowable by UAHA and 30+- games, depending on the division. D1 teams may begin practicing in September and go through the end of March. This level of team requires a curiosity and drive that is beyond entry-level, but it doesn't mean that newer players can't be on these teams. All players are encouraged to try-out & set goals to make these teams. This level of team would incorporate



Weber County Youth Hockey Program Description



experienced players in each division along with some newer players and teaches training habits that can carry-over to other sports. D1 players should anticipate fast-paced, often intense, practices where they will be required to give their undivided attention to coaches and peers, 100% effort & practice what they learn on their own. They should also anticipate some tough lessons learned through winning games, losing games & having a few very close games. The coaches at this level are approved by Weber County & set very clear expectations of players at the start of the season, knowing that these players will grow into these expectations as they grow as players. These tournaments are decided by parent majority and include overnight travel 3-4 times over the course of the season.

- **House/Rec Travel (will consider for '21-'22 Season)** which may include August Try-outs, end of August practices beginning and games/tournaments decided on by coach directives & parent majority approval September-April, depending on Spring tournament offerings. There may be extensive weekend travel including hotel stays, early morning and late night games, wide-varying and sometimes much higher level of play by other teams. Players on these types of teams are developing to excel in Ice Hockey and playing to win, finding failure as learning experiences. Through those experiences they decide how much they're willing to invest in this sport and how far they're willing to go. We most often see players in this category gaining a lot of momentum up until second-year Bantam then either excelling onto higher level Travel 16U programs or scaling their training back and continuing on to high School teams within the facility. Our goal with House/Rec Travel is to provide the ice-time if there are naturally enough in-house players & experienced coaches that desire this level of play. WCYH does not encourage coaches to poach players from area teams, rather, WCYH encourages coaches & local parents to provide the majority for these rosters by developing Weber County players. Players from the surrounding areas are encouraged to try-out for these House/Rec Travel teams if



Weber County Youth Hockey Program Description



they feel this program offers the right environment for their development. If there are not enough players to roster a House/Rec Travel team in a division, those players will be given the opportunity to form a D1 team, or join a House/Rec Travel roster with another organization.

We are confident we will see an influx at the D1 and D2 in all divisions 6-14U this season. Our intention is to build player numbers within Weber County to also offer House Rec Travel at the 10U, 14U, 16U & at the 18U Divisions as our growth warrants those team offerings the next few seasons. It is not our goal to recruit heavily outside Weber County to field House/Rec Travel teams at any division, although residents of any County are encouraged to try-out for teams in this program if they feel this program is a good fit for their development goals.

We are proud to continue to pursue our goal of becoming Northern Utah's premier choice for Ice hockey programs as we adhere to our Mission by growing using best-practice training habits, coaching with integrity, providing comprehensive team choices that are home to entry-level & competitive players that desire to "Buy Local, Support Local, Play Local". We Are: Weber County Youth Hockey.