

Pepsi Kids 9-13 NEW RULES

Pepsi Kids is a league where **FUN** and **DEVELOPMENT** is put before winning. With that in mind, we have changed the rules of Pepsi Kids 9-13 to help our players learn the game of hockey in a safe and fun environment.

This Division will begin as an **organized pick-up game**. Teams will be formed to ensure all teams are as equal in skill as possible using player ratings from the evaluation sessions. The first three games of the season will be focused on **faceoffs and positioning**. Players will learn the fundamentals of positioning from coaches and referees, both during a faceoff and in play. Every shift will begin with a faceoff, and every stoppage will result in a faceoff. During these games, officials will **NOT** be calling offsides or icings to allow players to feel comfortable on the ice and getting used to skating/stickhandling.

Officials will begin to call offsides in Game 4. Players will now be taught when they are able to enter the offensive zone and when they must leave it. Officials will be instructed to let very close calls go, but be sure to call any obvious offsides. During these games, players will learn the fundamentals of offsides, and how their positioning on the ice can impact the game. We fully expect players to make mistakes during these games, but encourage players to keep playing and learn from their mistakes.

Starting Game 7, officials will begin to call icing. Players will no longer be able to carelessly throw the puck down the ice. During these games, players will learn the rules of icing, and how keeping possession of the puck is key in hockey. Officials will be instructed to let close calls go, but be sure to call on obvious icings. We fully expect players to make mistakes during these games, but encourage players to keep trying and learn from these mistakes. At this point of the season, teams will be playing **REAL HOCKEY GAMES**, complete with faceoffs, offsides, and icing.

