

Timbit Hockey for Beginners & Timbit Tyke Programs

The Initiation Program

Both the Timbit Hockey for Beginners and the Timbit Tyke Program fall under Hockey Canada's Initiation Program. The **IP** program is a progressive, learn-to-play teaching curriculum. Children learn through participating in practice drills and informal modified games. The Initiation Program introduces the skills of skating, passing, puck control and shooting in a progressive, one-step-at-a-time manner. Focus is on skill development and FUN without the pressures of winning.

The Timbit Hockey for Beginners

The focus of the Timbit Hockey for Beginners Program is on the development of physical literacy. Fundamental movement skills should be mastered, and motor development emphasized. For optimal skill acquisition, the basic hockey skills of skating and puck control are introduced through the Initiation Program. FUN competitions are also introduced in a team environment.

The Timbit Tyke Program

The evolution of a player from the Timbit Hockey for Beginners Program to Timbit Tyke hockey Program involves a change in the landscape of game play, but the focus of skill development remains the core focus. Players will transition to cross ice games reinforcing the importance of using the same skills developed in the Timbit Hockey for Beginners Program.

Where should my son/daughter play

Parents need to think long term and not worry too much about children being the best player on the ice or getting into game situations without the skill development required at the age of 4, 5-or-6-years-old. Putting young players into a competitive environment too early will compromise the child's development. Children should only be placed into situations that suit their abilities. Parents must be realistic about what children should be able to do at all age levels. **To some things up – in order to do long division – one must know their multiplication tables first.**

Players older than the IP Program

The Timbit Hockey for Beginners welcomes older players. We understand some players join hockey at an older age. It is important these young hockey players master the fundamentals of the game prior to participating in a more competitive environment. We have a session dedicated to players 6 years old and up.

If you have any questions or concerns with regards to the IP program contact the NBMHA office at nbminorhockey@outlook.com