



Crowfoot Minor Hockey Return to Hockey 2020 FAQ

Why are there mini-teams this year? How should I think about these Cohorts?

- *Mini-teams are created so that players will be able to compete in game-play scenarios and to help keep practices to a manageable number of players if the cohort is too large to all practice at the same time.*
- *Mini-teams are fluid in that if players need to be shuffled around to ensure that game play is fair and balanced as much as possible. Player moves may happen throughout the development season to help ensure parity in competition.*
- *The entire cohort should be thought of as the “Team” for development season. Coaches will be expected to work together to develop all the players within the cohort.*
- *Coaches are not to focus on team-building activities within the mini-teams during the development season since players may move from team to team during this phase.*

What is the role of Cohort Lead and Mini-Team Coaches?

- *The main objective of the first part of the season will be to ensure that player development across the cohorts is the same for all skill levels within that cohort. If/when we are at a point that we can tier the players, we want to have had consistency in how they practiced for the first 10 weeks of the season.*
- *The Cohort lead will provide help with season practice plans to maintain consistency across all the teams within that cohort, they will report back to the coach coordinator for that age group regularly though out the season.*
- *The cohort lead may be part of the cohort or if they are from another cohort it will be an off-ice role. The mini-team head coaches will communicate with the cohort lead and take turns running practices when shared with the other mini teams in their cohort.*

How will practice plans be created?

- *Mini-Team head coaches will work together to create practice plans that focus on the key skills development themes laid out by our Director of Development, Dean Seymour.*
 - *Mini-teams can sort out*
- *Cohort Leads will work with the Mini-Team head coaches to ensure they are putting an emphasis on these skills and drill to ensure all players within the cohort are being provided the same instruction emphasis.*
- *Our development director, Dean Seymour, will create practice plans for the development season. These plans will have videos and progressions available to the coaches to help coaches more easily explain them to players. The goal of having a drill bank that coaches must use is to ensure that we have all mini teams practicing in a consistent manner. All mini teams will have an expectation of running similar practices with a warm up component, followed by the drills, with some sort of game play at the end. Once in a tiered team scenario, coaches will then have the ability to run practices as they see fit.*

Does Being a Cohort Lead or Mini Head Coach Guarantee a coaching position after the development season?

- *No, the reason for having a Cohort lead is so there is one point of contact for the Coach Coordinator and Development director if needed. The mini head coaches provide one point of contact for the mini team. This does not mean that the head coaches are the only ones who can run practices, or be involved in player development. Once in a tiered team scenario, the coach coordinators will name a head coach based on where players are positioned on teams.*

As a parent, who do I contact within the Cohort if I have a question?

- *The mini-team head coach is the best point of contact for the Development Season. The goal will be to have a manager for each cohort to help with any off-ice related issues.*

Can we do a Cash Call or Fundraising?

- *The short answer is no, not during the Development Season. As there are no team bank accounts set up for this season and recent developments from Hockey Alberta which suggest this phase “could” be shorted than first thought, it is not worth the complexity of trying to pay back cash calls or other fundraising in the event that we move to Tiered teams sooner than first thought.*
-