



U6 & U7 Jr Derbys Program

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the U6 & U7 Jr Derbys Program?

- a. The U6 & U7 (Timbits) Jr Derbys Program is a partnership between Tim Horton's, Ontario Hockey Federation, Greater Toronto Hockey League, and Hockey Canada that focuses on supporting skill development and the **FUND**amentals of hockey for participants aged 4, 5 and 6.
- b. This 'grassroots hockey program' provides an opportunity for participants to meet new friends while gaining experience in the game of hockey.
- c. Typically, the 4 & 5 years old make up the U6 Program and the 5 & 6 year olds make up the U7 Program. **However**, it is possible to have either age on each of the teams. This is determined through a simple evaluation process.

2. Is it a concern if my child can't skate well?

- a. **No, they don't have to be a strong skater!** However, it is recommended that your child participates in a learn to skate type of program prior to joining hockey. Interested in our learn to skate program? Check out https://streetsvillehockey.com/Pages/1477/Learn_to_Skate_Stick_and_Puck/
- b. At this age, the focus is on having fun and helping build confidence.
- c. You'll be amazed how quickly their skills will improve over the course of the season.

3. I'm a new hockey parent. What are my responsibilities?

- a. **Be supportive! Give LOTS of encouragement!**
- b. Respect the Team (Parents, Players, and Coaches).
- c. Ensure your child is properly equipped.
- d. Respect the Association (Volunteers). There is a **Zero Tolerance Policy** for abuse of all participants, volunteers, and other parents/guardians. Suspensions are possible consequences.
- e. Streetsville Hockey League is run by **PARENT & NON PARENT** volunteers. We encourage each family to volunteer **if possible**.
- f. **HOCKEY IS A TEAM SPORT!** Ensure your child is attending their ice times.

4. Do U6 & U7 participants require full equipment?

- a. **Yes!** The only equipment not required are mouth guards. Otherwise, **FULL gear is mandatory!**
- b. Helmet with face mask (CSA approved), throat protector/neck guard, shoulder pads, elbow pads, hockey gloves, hockey pants, hockey shin pads, skates, jock strap & cup / jill strap, sock tape, socks, hockey stick, water bottle (clearly marked and is **not** to be shared), and of course a hockey bag. The SHL will provide jerseys and a set of Hockey socks.

c. **Additional notes:**

- I. **Skates** – They are **NOT** sharp ‘out of the box’ and **MUST** be sharpened prior to the participants first ice time.
 - II. **Water Bottles** – The ‘long-spout’ is recommended as it can fit through the helmet cage.
 - III. **Hockey Tape** – Should be put on both the ‘butt end’ and blade of the stick.
 - IV. **Hockey Sticks** – Should be between the child’s chin and nose while **ON** skates.
- d. The equipment does **not** have to be new. You can purchase used gear as well. It’s more important that the equipment fits well. **Hockey gear is NOT meant to “grow into”**.
- e. Under the gear, as a base-layer, participants can wear a light pair of PJ’s or even a set of “breathable” long johns.
- f. There is an “Equipment Exchange” usually twice a season, for details, check out https://streetshockey.com/Pages/1856/Equipment_Exchange/

5. **Are there evaluations for U6 & U7?**

- a. **Yes.** U7s will go through hockey skills training from day 1 until December, this is in order to group participants on balanced teams for when we start game play. This will help set them up for success and FUN when playing other teams.
- b. U6s will be skill development sessions with some small area game play.

6. **When does the season start, and how long is the season?**

- a. Our season will begin in early to mid October each season.
- b. Season goes till approximately mid to late March.

7. **What is the schedule like for U6 & U7 Jr Derbys Program?**

- a. For the 2023-2024 season, the SHL will have 2 skill development sessions per week until December. Once December is here, our U7s will break into teams and have 1 practice and 1 game a week until the end of the season.
- b. Barring anything unforeseen, the U6 & U7 schedule will be as follows.

U6 & U7 Timbits		
Details	Rookie Dogs - U6	Intermediate Dogs - U7
Length	50-60 minutes each sessions	
Practice Locations	Vic Johnston Community Center in Streetsville	
Game Locations	Vic Johnston Community Center in Streetsville	
Practices	Saturdays 11am	Saturdays 12pm & 1pm
Game Times	No games for U6	Sundays 10:30am & 11:30am
# of Ice Times	Estimated for the season: 40 – 45	

8. Does the Association schedule the games for the U7 teams?

- a. Yes, we do!

9. What is the overall time commitment like?

- a. U6 Rookie Dogs will have one (1) ice time per week.
- b. U7 Intermediate Dogs will have two (2) ice times per week.
 - i. October to December, 2 skill development sessions per week. December to the end of the season will be 1 practice and 1 game.
- c. Teams can also schedule additional team building events, exhibition games and tournaments. These events are dependent on your teams volunteers/coaches.

10. Are there other programs I can sign my U6/U7 participant up for?

- a. **YES!** We offer our Learn to Skate and Stick and Puck program.
 - i. Registration is separate from Hockey Canada and registration has limited spaces.
 - ii. Details can be found at:
[https://streetsvillehockey.com/Pages/1477/Learn to Skate Stick and Puck/](https://streetsvillehockey.com/Pages/1477/Learn%20to%20Skate%20Stick%20and%20Puck/)

11. Can U7 teams participate in tournaments?

- a. **Yes!** Tournaments must be approved by the Programs Manger (John Culleton) and must happen during off weekends or post season.
- b. Tournaments are arranged and funded by each individual team.

12. Where can I find additional resources?

- a. There are **MANY** resources that are available to families.
- b. Details can be found at: <https://www.ohf.on.ca/media/ri0fpbwp/timbits-u7-pathway-e.pdf>

13. Have a Question? Need an Answer?

- a. If you have a question that has not been covered above, or on the website; please contact:

Portfolio	Email
Programs Manager (John Culleton)	info@streetsvillehockey.com
Timbit Coordinator (Bob Handley)	hnic14@hotmail.com
Interested in Coaching?	info@streetsvillehockey.com
Interested in Volunteering?	info@streetsvillehockey.com