



Yellowknife Minor Hockey Association

2026-2027 Female Program Options and Registration Process

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The attached infographic outlines the female and co-ed program options being considered for the 2026-2027 season. YKMHA remains committed to providing meaningful opportunities for all players at all levels of participation and competition while ensuring decisions are made in a transparent, equitable, inclusive, and sustainable manner.

The final programs offered for the 2026-2027 season will depend on registration numbers, coach and goalie availability, and the overall impact on both female and co-ed hockey. The Board has proposed the program options shown in the infographic. Registration will help determine which options are viable based on member interest. Below are female registration projections to support our members in understanding how female programming approaches were determined.

Registration opens July 15 and closes August 15.

Projected Female Participation (2026-2027)

Division	Projected Number of Players
U9	23
U11	35
U13	40
U15	22
U18	27

Division-Specific Female Program Approach

Division	Options	Parameters
U9 and U11	All Female Team in House League	Teams will be formed in registration order, subject to roster limits. If demand exceeds available space, waitlists and alternate options will be provided.
U13	Travel OR Development	Competitive Female Stream will be determined by your vote, through the registration process. If a Travel Model is chosen, participation in the Co-ed house league is encouraged, but not mandatory
U15	Travel OR Development	Competitive Female Stream will be determined by your vote, through the registration process. If a Travel Model is chosen, participation in the Co-ed house league is encouraged, but not mandatory
U18	Travel Team	Participation in co-ed house league is optional. Co-ed participation is encouraged for development and additional ice time but is not required for travel team eligibility. Potential games in the YK Robins Women League may be considered where available and appropriate.

Registration Selections and Decision Process

- For the Competitive Travel program options (both optional), families will be asked to choose between the Female Travel Team and the Female Development Team format during registration. YKMHA is seeking formal feedback through this process. Your selection will be recorded and used as a vote indicating your preferred program model. By choosing one of these options, you are helping guide which model best reflects the needs and preferences of our membership.

Tryouts and Higher-Age Division Requests

- Players remain eligible to try out for higher-age competitive teams where permitted by YKMHA policy.
- Players trying out for a higher age division will have their registration selection counted only within their age-appropriate division for program planning purposes.
- Section 9 of the Team Selection Policy will apply to all competitive female teams. Players trying out for a higher-age development team must rank among the top seven players for that team in order to be awarded a roster spot.

Female Travel and Development Team Model

Both Female Travel and Development Teams are a tryout-based, and intended to support player development, competitive opportunities, and the continued growth of female hockey in Yellowknife.

Players on a Female Travel Team are encouraged, but not required, to also register in co-ed hockey to gain additional practices and game experience.

Feedback and Evaluation

- Feedback is open anytime throughout the season and is encouraged. Families may contact info@ykminorhockey.ca. The association fosters open dialogue and supports members to bring concerns forward in a constructive manner and in accordance to our policies and procedures.
- YKMHA will review feedback and program delivery during the season, including feedback survey checkpoints on December 18, 2026 and March 12, 2027.
- Feedback will be used to evaluate access, player experience, roster balance, development outcomes, and future program planning for all YKMHA programs.

Summary

This approach is intended to balance choice, equity, gender inclusion, player development, and operational sustainability. It provides female athletes with meaningful programming options while maintaining strong co-ed participation pathways and protecting long-term growth across all divisions.

Sincerely,

Yellowknife Minor Hockey Association Board of Directors