



## First year U10 parents

Moving up to U10/traveling hockey is a very exciting time for your child but is also a huge step up from U8 hockey. Here is some important information for you as parents for your first year of traveling hockey.

Please read through this document to understand the commitment needed for a positive experience at the U10 level for you and your child:

1) **Time commitment:** The average ice time per week will increase significantly. A typical U8 week would involve an average of 2 ice sessions. At the U10 level, it will increase to an average of 4-5. Additionally these ice times will often involve longer practices requiring greater child focus, attention, and effort than seen at the U8 level.

2) **Attendance policies:** This is now a traveling team and players are expected to attend 95% or more of scheduled practice/games and team events. Your coach will outline what are acceptable reasons for not being at a scheduled event at the parent's meeting prior to the start of you season.

3) **Cost:** The cost for U10 will be significantly higher than the U8 fee due to the increased ice time and tournament fees. The season total cost will average of \$1000-\$1200.

4) **Tryouts:** Unlike U8 which may have only one grading session, there will be a multi-day try-out and it can be more stress for child and parent.

5) **Out of town tournaments.** There will be at least one out town tournament during the season. This will involve travel and hotel expenses.

6) **Metro area tournaments:** Each team at the U10 level will have two local tournaments including a tournament hosted in White Bear. A year-end District tournament will be held as well. These tournaments generally involve 3 or more games and will be held over 2-3 days, generally weekends.

7) **Parent volunteer duties:** As a parent, you will be relied on by your team to volunteer services for a variety of team needs. This ranges from team manager duties, game day duties (clock, penalty box, etc) just to name a few.

If you have any questions at any time throughout the season, feel free to contact the WBLAHA Girls Director.

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