## **Message From**

## The Shamrock President

August 28, 2025

Sent to: All Shamrock Hockey League Associations

## **RE: U9 MD HOCKEY IN THE SHAMROCK**

Considering recent changes allowed under the **OHF U9 Pilot Program**, the Shamrock Hockey League is pleased to offer an earlier start to U9 MD hockey. The league will start our full ice season for all U9 MD teams **Fri, November 14**<sup>th</sup>, **2025**.

The Shamrock is pivoting away from the use of "Tier 1" and "Tier 2" in U9 MD. Going forward, the divisions will simply be referred to as MD1 and MD2. To start the season, we break down MD1 into North, South & East, while MD2 simply breaks down to East & West. This is very similar to last season, with the exception that we now break down MD2. We refer to this break down as "pods" within the league. The pods are as follows:

MD1 North: East Lambton, Lambeth, Lambton Shores, Petrolia, South Huron

MD1 South: Dresden, Mooretown, South Kent, Wallaceburg, West Lorne

MD1 East: Ausable Valley, Elgin Thames, Mount Brydges, St. Marys, St. Thomas, Strathroy

MD2 East: Ausable Valley, Elgin Thames, Lambeth, South Huron, St. Marys, St. Thomas

MD2 West: Lambton Shores, Mooretown, Mount Brydges, Petrolia, South Kent

For the entire month of October 2025, our teams will play a single-game round robin against each other. There will then be approximately a two-week break before the full ice season starts. All U9 MD teams that were selected in the spring will be eligible to play full ice exhibition games from November 1<sup>st</sup> onwards. Fall picked teams will be able to play full ice games after their 60 day "development" window is complete.

IMPORTANT: IN ORDER FOR YOUR TEAM(S) TO BE ELIGIBLE TO START THE SEASON FRI, NOVEMEBER 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025, YOUR TRYOUTS MUST BE COMPLETED BY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 FOR ALL OF YOUR U9 MD TEAMS – ANY TEAMS <u>NOT</u> PICKED ON TIME MUST SEND AN EMAIL DIRECTLY TO ME CITING THEIR FINAL TRYOUT DAY

U9 MD1 teams will stay in their pods and play a 10-week full ice schedule (Season 1). The teams will then be re-seeded into U9 MD1 Green and White and play another 10-week full ice schedule (Season 2).

For Season 2, the top FOUR teams from U9 MD1 East along with the top TWO teams from U9 MD1 North and the top TWO teams from U9 MD1 South will form U9 MD1 Green. The remaining U9 MD1 teams will form U9 MD1 White.

U9 MD2 teams from East & West will come together to form U9 MD2 Black. U9 MD2 Black will play a 20-game regular season from November to March.

Questions surrounding U9 MD hockey can be directed to me. I will only be fielding questions from your Centre's Shamrock Rep, OMHA Rep or President. I kindly ask any questions that your coaches or parents have be directed to the aforementioned people.

Lastly, please refer to the Shamrock Seasonal Structure for more details.

Respectfully,

Adam Oblak

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CC: Shamrock Hockey League Executive