#### WOOLWICH SPECIAL HOCKEY



Big Thanks to our 1st Season Sponsors



Contact Us www.woolwichminorhockey.ca Click on Sun Rays. woolwichsunrays@gmail.com 519-590-3555

# What is SPECIAL HOCKEY?

Special hockey is for players with special needs. Special hockey is there when mainstream hockey just doesn't fit.

What's required: THE DESIRE TO PLAY HOCKEY AND HAVE FUN!

### **Get Involved**

The Woolwich Sun Rays is a team heavily dependent on caring, sensitive coaches and volunteers.

If you have coaching experience and credentials, we'd love to hear from you. Volunteers, aged 14 and up are also needed on the ice to support players and to assist coaches with drills, practices and games. Some off-ice volunteer support is needed too.

## What is required to volunteer with the Sun Rays?

Volunteers will complete an enrolment form available online. As your volunteer work will be with a vulnerable sector, a police check will be required. Also, completion of a program called "Respect in Sport" under Ontario Minor Hockey Association will be required. Information about these will be provided once your enrolment form is received.

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#### Who are the Sun Rays?

The Woolwich Sun Rays is the newest team under the Woolwich Minor Hockey umbrella. The team formed in 2015 with invaluable support from many organizations and individuals. These include Woolwich Minor Hockey, the Township of Woolwich, Waterloo Crimestoppers, corporate sponsors and local service clubs. Beginning on the ice in September, 2015 twelve players participated in the Sun Rays very first season. By the end of March, players had practiced weekly, participated in several games and played in a local tournament.

#### What will players learn?

Under the watchful eye of caring coaches and volunteers, players will learn and develop at their own pace. They will be in a safe, fun environment where they will learn as they're ready how to skate, hold a stick, handle the puck, pass, take shots, make a save, and above all, how to have fun in a team environment. They will learn how to interact with others and will make new friends, all on their own time working toward their own goals.



#### Where are there other Special Hockey teams?

Special Hockey teams exist around Woolwich and beyond throughout North America and the UK.

Locally, there are teams in Kitchener, Cambridge, Guelph, Hanover, and Orangeville. There is an organization called Special Hockey International (SHI) whose membership includes over 70 teams. Woolwich Sun Rays is a member of SHI.

#### What about tournaments?

Annually Special Hockey International hosts one tournament and its member teams are invited. The tournament is held mid-March of each year in different locations, such as, Ottawa, Peterborough, Kitchener, Lake Placid, NY. Local tournaments occur too and those opportunities are explored on an annual basis.

#### Who can join the Sun Rays?

Any interested player who has special, developmental needs and who lives in or around the Township of Woolwich. Both males and females aged 6 and up are eligible to join the team. Registration is not limited to Woolwich Township residents.

#### What equipment is needed?

Players must wear full hockey gear including helmet, pads, gloves, and skates, and they need a hockey stick. An equipment list is provided at registration.

#### Where and when do the Sun Rays play?

The Sun Rays play once a week on the weekend, at the same time every week. The scheduling is handled by Woolwich Minor Hockey. Home ice will be at either Woolwich Memorial Centre in Elmira or at the St. Jacobs Arena in St. Jacobs.

#### How do I register to join the Sun Rays?

Registration forms are available online at www.woolwichminorhockey.ca. Click on Sun Rays.

Or email: **woolwichsunrays@gmail.com** for registration forms and fee information.

The Woolwich Sun Rays will give players a safe place to play hockey on a team, to learn and develop and most of all, to make friends and have fun just like their siblings, school mates and friends do.

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