



U9 3v3 Memorial Hockey Tournament

Tournament Rules & Guidelines

Our Purpose

This tournament is held in loving memory of Dante Caranci and reflects the values he embodied: kindness, teamwork, joy, and sportsmanship. The primary goal of this event is to provide young players with a positive, safe, and fun hockey experience while bringing families and the community together in Dante's honour.

We thank all parents, coaches, and spectators for helping us create an environment where every child feels supported, respected, and proud to play.

Core Principles

- Fun comes first
 - Safety is always the priority
 - Respect for players, officials, and families is expected
 - Learning and development are encouraged
 - This is a non-contact event
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Event Format

- **Age Group:** U9 (Under 9) – 2017 + 2018 Birth years
 - **Game Style:** 3-on-3 hockey
 - **Ice Format:** Full ice or cross-ice, depending on division and schedule
 - **Officials:** Certified referees
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Non-Contact Policy

This is a **strictly non-contact tournament**.

- Body checking of any kind is not permitted.
- Accidental contact may result in a stoppage of play or a penalty shot.
- Intentional contact may result in removal from the game for player safety.
- Repeated unsafe behaviour may result in removal from further play at the discretion of tournament staff.

Our goal is to keep players safe while allowing them to enjoy the game.

Sportsmanship & Behaviour

Players & Bench Staff

- Fighting, rough play, or aggressive behaviour is not permitted.
- Bench staff must remain on the bench unless invited onto the ice by an official for an injury or safety matter.
- Any behaviour that compromises player safety or the spirit of the event will be addressed immediately.

Parents & Spectators

This is a youth memorial event.

- Parents and spectators are expected to demonstrate respectful and positive behaviour at all times.
- Coaching from the stands, verbal criticism, or aggressive behaviour toward players, officials, or other families is not permitted.
- We ask all adults to model the behaviour we hope to see in our players.

Team Rosters

- Recommended roster size for 3-on-3 play:
 - **6–9 skaters + 1 goalie**
- Teams may be made up of players from different associations, provided they are appropriately grouped for level of play.
- The focus is on balanced, fair, and enjoyable competition.

Tournament staff reserve the right to make adjustments if needed to ensure a positive experience for all teams.

Divisions & Levels of Play

- Teams should register in a division that best reflects their current level of play.
 - The intention is to create balanced games where all players can participate meaningfully.
 - Tournament staff decisions regarding divisions and placement are final.
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Jerseys & Equipment

- Players will be provided hockey jerseys.
- Numbers are not required.
- Pinnies will be provided if there is a jersey colour conflict. The designated home team will wear pinnies.
- All equipment required by Hockey Canada must be worn, including:

- CSA-approved helmet
 - Full protective gear
 - Jock or jill
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Game Length & Schedule

- Games are **25 minutes running time**.
- There are no timeouts.
- No warm-up time is provided; players may skate once around the ice before lining up.
- Games will start and end on schedule to ensure fairness for all teams.

Teams are asked to be ready at the rink door **3–5 minutes before** their scheduled start time.

Scoring & Standings

- Scores may be kept for gameplay purposes.
 - The focus of the event is participation and enjoyment, not standings.
 - No goal differential will be emphasized.
 - All players are encouraged to support one another regardless of score.
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Penalties

- Minor infractions may result in a penalty shot for the non-offending team.
 - Officials may stop play to explain infractions as a learning opportunity.
 - Tournament staff and referees have full authority to ensure safe and fair play.
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Goaltender Play

- When a goalie freezes the puck, play is stopped.
 - The defending team gains possession after the opposing team clears the zone.
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Icing & Offsides

- There is no icing.
 - Offsides are enforced.
 - Upon an offside, the defending team gains possession once the attacking team clears the zone.
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Dressing Rooms

- Dressing rooms are assigned by the venue and may be shared.
 - Please do not leave valuables in dressing rooms.
 - Teams are asked to treat facilities with care and respect.
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Alcohol, Drugs & Facility Policies

- Alcohol and illegal substances are not permitted within the arena or surrounding public areas.
 - All participants and spectators must follow venue policies and the City of London RZone principles of Respect and Responsibility.
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Referees & Officials

- All games are officiated by certified referees.
 - Officials' decisions are final and made with player safety as the top priority.
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Changes & Clarifications

Tournament staff reserve the right to adjust rules or schedules as needed to ensure a safe, fair, and enjoyable experience for all participants. If you have questions or concerns, we welcome respectful communication and are happy to discuss them.

Thank You

Thank you for being part of the Dante Caranci Foundation U9 3v3 Memorial Hockey Tournament. Your cooperation and positivity help us honour Dante's legacy by creating a joyful and meaningful experience for every child on the ice.