

Group Packages What to Order?



SALMING



With all the choices available, choosing the best stick package can be confusing. Here are some tips to help you make the best decision...

1. Which Stick Model is Best?

There are three considerations in choosing the best stick model for you program. (1) Who are my players? (2) What is the age range of my players? (3) How and where will we play?

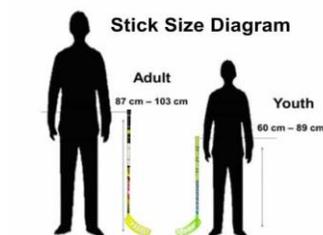
(1) Who are my players? Is this a school PE program with different players each session? Is it an after-school or summer program where you will have the same kids playing all the time? What is the floorball experience level? Does your program cater to new players or first-timers?

A school PE program is generally more structured than a recreation program. In both cases, you will likely focus on beginners -- players who are brand new to floorball. In an after school or intramural program, your average experience and skill level will increase. Players will want to purchase their own floorball stick to play and practice at home. If this is the case, your players should be encouraged to bring their own stick to your floorball sessions.

Our pre-configured stick sets are built around a straight blade floorball stick -- the Salming Campus 36, Salming Campus 34, the Score One, or our newest stick, the FloorballPlanet School Stick. Players will be most comfortable shooting left or shooting right and you have no idea of how many in your group will shoot from a particular side. With a straight blade stick, you solve this problem. A straight blade stick can be played equally well from either side. However, you get less performance from a straight blade stick. A precurved stick does not cost much more than a straight blade stick yet the curved stick is better for stick handling, passing and shooting. An individual player will always choose a precurved stick. Since there is the perception that a precurved stick is "better", your serious players will want to obtain their own which means you won't need as many straight blade sticks in your program. Remember, being left handed or right handed has no bearing on which way a player shoots.

A hockey program that incorporates floorball into its off-ice and dryland training program or a college intramural program will likely focus on precurved sticks because of the better performance and because players will practice at home. We have a large selection of precurved sticks available for these types of programs. In this case, consider building your own stick package.

(2) What is the age range of my players? Since floorball is played at all ages, floorball sticks come in different sizes. For best results, your players should have a stick of the correct size. As a general rule, a stick should come up to an inch or two above the belly button (or mid-sternum for a young player) when the stick is held in front of the body with the blade on the floor.



PLAYER HEIGHT	SHAFT LENGTH	SHAFT + BLADE
3'8" to 4'2"	67 cm	78 cm
4'2" to 4'4"	72 cm	83 cm
4'4" to 4'6"	77 cm	88 cm
4'6" to 5'0"	82 cm	93 cm
5'0" to 5'4"	87 cm	98 cm
5'4" to 5'8"	92 cm	103 cm
5'8" to 6'0"	96 cm	107 cm
6'0" to 6'4"	100 cm	111 cm
+ 6'4"	103 cm	114 cm

Our straight blade floorball sticks come in three basic sizes - 75 cm, 85 cm and 95 cm. These sizes refer to the length of the shaft (not the total length of the stick). You may see stick sets of other suppliers with size reference in inches. To get the equivalent size, multiply each inch by 2.5 to get the metric length. For example, a 34 inch stick is the equivalent of an 85 cm stick. There is a stick sizing chart above and we show this in many other places. A 75 cm stick is ideally suited for a player 4'1" to 4'6" tall, an 85 cm stick for heights 4'8" to 5'3" and a 95 cm stick for players 5'4" to 6' tall. There are smaller and larger sticks available, but generally not in a straight blade model.

A 75 cm stick is generally appropriate for school grades 2-4, an 85 cm stick for later elementary grades through middle school and a 95 cm stick is best for taller middle school through high school and adult. Our basic stick packages use a mix of stick lengths in an attempt to match the players in each grade level. In all cases, we can modify the stick lengths in any package to meet your requirements. NOTE: If you are trying to fit your package to a wide range of players, it is better to err on the side of longer sticks. We would rather see an elementary player use an 85 or 95 cm stick than a tall middle school or high school player be forced to use a 75 cm stick.

Young players (pre-K, kindergarten and 1st grade) presents its own challenges. Our shortest straight blade sticks, 75 cm, can be too big for young children to handle effectively. For early elementary (kindergarten and 1st grade), we can shorten the Campus 36 stick to 65 cm length so be sure to ask about this option. For kids younger than this, it is better to select one of the short kid sticks (65 cm or 67 cm length) or consider a mini stick such as the Salming or Fatpipe Mini. These sticks not only are shorter in length, they also have thinner shafts for easier gripping by small hands. We don't create standard packages with these sticks, they can be custom ordered.

Most of our stick sets come with standard regulation floorballs. For younger players, we have found that a softer, more flexible ball can provide a better playing experience. The ball has less action which reduces the bounce on the floor making it easier to control. It also reduces the "ouch" if the ball inadvertently flies up to strikes the player in the upper body.

(3) How and Where will we play? A PE class in elementary school will have a different style of play than high school or college rec/intramural. Hockey players will play more aggressively than Special Olympics athletes. The Salming Campus 36 stick is our least expensive straight blade model. It features a soft blade and a sand grip. Other sticks come with a tape grip which is softer on the hands but will tend to deteriorate over extended use. The Salming Campus 34 has the same soft blade as the Campus 36 (it can be bent left or right) but it sports a tape grip and has a stronger blade/shaft

attachment (just like precurved sticks) which makes it more durable for more aggressive play. While the Campus 36 comes in three lengths (75 cm, 85 cm, 95 cm), the Campus 34 only comes in 85 cm and 95 cm lengths. Our Score One stick model has a strong blade/shaft attachment and tape grip but it comes in all three lengths and uses a harder blade material. This means you cannot bend the blade and receiving passes is less forgiving. However, the harder blade provides more durability when the stick is used on rougher concrete or asphalt surfaces. Our newest school stick, the FloorballPlanet FBP School Stick is similar to the Score One stick but the blade is softer, like the Campus series sticks which allows you to bend the blade. The blade on the 75 cm elementary stick is slightly smaller which is ideal for younger players. **NOTE: OUR STRAIGHT BLADE STICKS ARE NOT IFF-CERTIFIED. That means they cannot be used in competitions sanctioned by the International Floorball Federation. ALL OF OUR PRECURVED STICKS ARE IFF-CERTIFIED. If you are planning to enter national or international tournaments, you are advised to choose precurved sticks.**