Blacklight Hockey

Supplies: Enough florescent blacklights to light up a room at night, one plastic hockey stick per player, tape, swimming noodles, glow in the dark necklaces, wax paper and a few white soft balls

Set Up: The coolness of the game is due to the blacklights. Purchase florescent blacklights, replacing standard florescent bulbs Google “florescent blacklight” to find a retailer. The typical florescent fixture has four bulbs. In order to keep costs down, I recommend putting only one blacklight bulb per four standard ones. If you don’t have florescent lighting, then chances are blacklights are sold of the type of lighting you do have. Block any outside light from coming inside the room (best played at night).

Purchase plastic hockey sticks. Cut in half swimming noodles and tape the noodle to the bottom of each hockey stick. That way, when players miss the ball accidentally hitting others, the impact is minimal.

If you don’t have a budget for plastic hockey sticks, then substitute swimming noodles. Each player is given a glow in the dark necklace for fun and safety reasons (players can see one another).

Each player is also given two square sheets of wax paper. The wax paper is used to stand on by players, who slide across the room keeping their feet on the wax paper. The wax paper allows players the feeling of being on ice. Works great on carpet (and might on tile floors too).

Set two rules about the wax paper. First, feet stay on the wax paper at all times. No running or walking without it. Second, wax paper cannot be tucked in socks because doing so minimizes the slide effect.

Have a volunteer hand out extra wax paper during and in between rounds. Players will need an ample supply.

Use white dodge balls that are soft on the inside (avoid heavy playground balls). Why white? It glows under a blacklight. Why soft? No ball injuries. Purchase blow up hockey goals at Target, Wal-Mart or other retailer. You can substitute two orange cones if needed. Simply wrap them with white paper so they stand out.

How To Play: Designate one goalie per team. He guards the goal without a hockey stick and can use any part of his body to block a shot. No other players can stay within a few feet of their goal attempting to block shots. The more balls you throw in there, the better. One ball per 6-8 players is recommended. Have each team line up on their side of the playing area and throw the balls in the middle. On GO, players attempt to hit a ball into their goal. Allow players to play non stop. When a ball goes in a goal, throw it back in the middle. Have a leader stationed at each goal to count points. Play five minute rounds. After each round tally up points announcing each team’s current status. Also, refill wax paper in between rounds. A game consists of four rounds. Award the winning team some sort of cool prize. If you have time to play again, change up the teams.

Tips:

* The goal is controlled chaos. The game will get crazy, but that’s what makes it fun. Just make sure it is not out of control. Have plenty of leaders to enforce the rules and stop the game if things get out of hand.
* For fun supply lots of yellow highlighter markers so players can draw on their face, arms and hands beforehand. It creates a really cool glowing effect when under a blacklight.