

Irondale Youth Hockey – How much will it cost in 2007-08?

Volunteer to keep costs low

The Irondale Youth Hockey Association (IYHA) tries to keep the cost of hockey participation affordable while also ensuring that the kids participating get the ice time and the skills training necessary to develop and compete. To keep costs low, many, many hours of volunteer time are donated to the cause. Team coaches, managers and treasurers are all volunteers. The association board members volunteer the time necessary to do those jobs, which includes much more than the monthly meetings. We need parents to volunteer for these jobs and for help running our tournaments and other fund-raising and organizing activities. This year we are requiring a deposit, paid at the time of registration, which will be refunded if a minimum number of volunteer hours are worked.

Participate in Association Fund-raising Activities

We also try to keep families costs low by extensive fund-raising. Each member of our association belongs to the Lake Region Hockey Association which runs charitable gambling operations at local establishments and makes contributions to youth hockey associations and other youth sports activities. Last year Lake Region Hockey contributed \$20,500 to IYHA which reduced each participant's cost by over \$80. The tournaments run by IYHA and the Mounds View Youth Hockey Association also raise significant funds. These tournament profits raised over \$22,000 last year, reducing each IYHA participant's cost by over \$90. Other fundraising and donations to IYHA totaled over \$5000.

Organize and Participate in Team Fund-raising Activities

The individual teams formed within IYHA also do their own fund-raising. The result of these efforts varied significantly from team to team depending mostly on the initiative of the team parents and coaches. The amounts raised last season varied from less than one hundred to several thousand dollars.

What are we Paying For

The primary expense in the cost of youth hockey is ice time, for the coming year it is expected to range in cost from \$150 to \$180 per hour depending on the rink and the time of year. Almost 75% of the cost of youth hockey paid to the association is attributable to ice time. Other costs include game referees, equipment, clinic instructors and fees paid to USA Hockey, MN Hockey, District 1 and various expenses of running a youth hockey association the largest of which is the approximately \$3000 we pay for auditing services.

What will it Cost this Year

The following table includes estimated costs of play at the different levels within IYHA. The IYHA cost is billed to the teams for ice time, association fees, tournaments paid for by the association, clinic costs and administrative expenses. The Team Cost includes team parties, sweatshirts or warm-up suits, extra scrimmages or tournaments, and other things which may be arranged for by the individual teams. These do not include deductions for team fundraising activities. Nor do they include the cost of the skates, sticks and other equipment parents furnish for their children. IYHA does maintain an inventory of used, donated equipment available upon request to our equipment manager. These costs also do not include the cost of attending tournaments, which for out of town tournaments would include hotels and meals.

Level	Est. IYHA Cost per Player	Est. Add'l Team Cost per Player
Mini-mite, C Mite, U8	\$50-300	\$10-20
A & B Mite	\$300-600	\$20-50
U10	\$700-800	\$30-50
U12	\$900-1000	\$30-50
Squirt	\$700-900	\$30-60
Peewee	\$750-1000	\$30-100
Bantam	\$1000-1600	\$100-400

Help for Families in Need

IYHA and Lake Region both have a limited amount of funding for families who need help.

If you have any questions about IYHA finances please do not hesitate to send me an e-mail with your question or a good time for me to call you. Tom O'Keefe – IYHA Treasurer – tomcokeefe@msn.com