



Andover Hockey Association – A local tradition for over 40 years!

Come Join the Fun!!!

Thursday, March 1, 2012

Registration for the Andover Hockey Association is now open to residents of Andover for all travel teams and the Initiation program. We are looking forward to another exciting season of hockey.

Why is AHA the largest and most successful town hockey program in New England?

- Phillips Andover Location. 2 World Class Rinks close to home. The best rinks in the area.
- Full Valley League or Middlesex Yankee Girls League Schedule with Playoffs
- Most League Games within 15 miles from Andover
- Equal Ice Time Policy Across All Teams
- Devoted and trained USA Hockey Coaches who know your children and live in the community
- Multiple Levels at each Age Group to Accommodate Beginners/Recreational Players as well as the Advanced/Highly Competitive Players
- Professionally Run Skills Sessions for Skaters and Goalies

Families whose financial obligations to the Andover Hockey Association are paid in full can register on line by clicking the “REGISTRATION” tab to the right. Registrations via the AHA website will not be accepted without accompanying credit card payment. To pay by check, print the registration from the web site and mail the registration payment of \$50 to AHA Registrar, PO Box 323, Andover, MA 01810. Families with outstanding financial obligations **must contact the Treasurer directly @ smurrayandover@gmail.com**.



Registration will close on **March 12, 2012**. Any registrations received or postmarked after March 12th must include a \$50 late fee. **No registrations will be taken at tryouts.** All registered players will be notified via the AHA web site of tryout times, which are scheduled for the last week two in March. Players registering after March 12th could be placed on a waiting list until all rosters have been determined and then placed on a team only if an opening exists. Our program is a full time hockey program **except** for the half season teams. We don't encourage participation on another full time team. AHA policy states that your **town team** events come before any other hockey program. Please check the AHA web site for updates.



Age and Payment Information

Listed below are the various age/level classifications and related birth dates:

Age Level Birth Dates High School Half Season High School age eligible players 18 and Under: January 1, 1994 – December 31, 1997 – Bantam/Girls U14 January 1, 1998 – December 31, 1999 – Pee Wee/Girls U12 January 1, 2000 – December 31, 2001 – Squirt/Girls U10 January 1, 2002 – December 31, 2003 – Mites/Girls U8 January 1, 2004 – December 31, 2005 – Initiation Programs January 1, 2004 – December 31, 2007

A payment schedule has been set for two player categories, as follows:

1) Girls/Mites/Squirt/Peewee/Bantam

- Registration \$50.00
- April Roster Fee due May 1st: \$500.00
- September 1st: \$700.00
- December 1st: Final Installment Due

NOTE: Final fee for 12/13 season will be determined once ice and league contracts are received and the budget is finalized. If you do not receive invoice for the due dates listed above please contact AHA Treasurer.

2) Initiation and High School (Half Season)

- Initiation Gold Levels (**\$500** payment in full with registration)
- Initiation Blue Level – (Coed and Girls -**\$600** payment in full with registration)
- High School -(Half Season Boys and Girls -**\$700** payment in full with registration)

Payment guidelines are, as follows:

- Players will be allowed to start the new season only if all family members are current with their financial obligation or are honoring a payment plan.
- Notify the AHA Treasurer in writing to request financial aid by August 1st.
- Payments are credited against outstanding balances first and credited equally if there is more than one player in a family.
- An email letter will be sent notifying parent(s) of ineligibility for any non-payment in September.
- An email will be sent in December notifying parent(s) of ineligibility for non-payment of final invoice.



Exceptions to non-refundable 1st payment are:

- Player moves out of town -Player attends private high school (AHA Treasurer must be notified in writing by 4/15/12)
- An operational change to the program occurs (as determined by the Board of Directors)
- Gold/Blue level player drops within first two weeks of Initiation Program.
- Additional fees include:
- Late fee for registration after March 12, 2012 - \$50
- Return check fee -\$25 (and required payment by bank check thereafter)

For questions regarding AHA programs, please contact Leigh Keefe, AHA Registrar – leighkeefe@gmail.com For payment questions (including payment plans), contact Steve Murray, Treasurer - smurrayandover@gmail.com

High School Information

High School Half Season

Open to High School age players who are residents of Andover. Season will end before Thanksgiving. Ice times to be set prior to the season start. Exact times and (league or independent) games will be determined. Typically two practices per week. We will try to schedule extra practice/skills sessions just before High School tryouts. Important: If a player does not make a High School team, we cannot guarantee them a spot on an AHA Winter season team after Thanksgiving, however players who play Fall HS will be offered priority on a Winter Midget team should a team be developed. This past season we had four Half Season teams, two for girls and two for boys.



Initiation Program Information

The 2012-2013 season will from October 2012 through Mid-March 2013.

The AHA Initiation Program focuses on skating and skill development in an environment where having fun is of primary importance.

The AHA Initiation Program is broken into two levels, Gold Initiation and Blue Initiation. Each level is open to boys and girls.

LEVEL 1-Gold Level (Learn to Skate for Both Boys and Girls)

For beginning to moderate skaters. Emphasis is on skating skills and introduction to basic hockey skills. Players traditionally skate 1 hour on Saturday and 1 hour on Sunday at set morning times at Phillips Academy. Cost \$ 500.00

LEVEL 2 - Blue Level (In House for Boys and Girls)

For moderate to better skaters. Players should have completed at least one year in the Gold Level or the equivalent. Players continue to work on skating skills and hockey skills. Players are placed on a team and have games against other teams in the Blue Level. Children skate 2 hours a week, 1 game and 1 practice. Times are typically weekend mornings at Phillips Academy. The Blue Level teams must maintain a balance of ages and abilities for the safety of the younger children in the program. As outlined above, participation is limited to children with birth years 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007. Cost \$ 600.00

When signing up for the Blue or Gold Level, please note that your child could be moved to a different level based on their ability as determined by the coaching staff. If parents of current skaters need help placing their children, please talk to your child's coach, or contact Pete Vaccaro at peter Vaccaro1@comcast.net You can use the grid below to decide which program is best for your player:

Birth Year	Program(s) Completed			
	1 Yr Gold	2 Yrs Gold	1 Yr Blue	2 Yrs Blue
> 2003	NA	Squirts (Peewees for BY 2001 and 2000)		
2003	NA	Squirts		
2004	Blue or Mites	Mites		
2005	Blue	Blue	Mites	Mites
2006	Gold or Blue	Blue	Blue or Mites	NA
2007	Gold	NA	NA	NA

* All players are required to wear full hockey equipment, including a USA Hockey approved helmet. No bicycle or ski helmets will be allowed on the ice.



COED Travel Team Program Information

For the 2012-2013 season, the Association will offer the same travel team levels as the 2011-2012 season. Teams will be assembled based on the 2012 evaluation process that takes place in the month of March 2012.

1) Boys High School half season

Two practices, Skills once every other week and one game in a league. The season will end before Thanksgiving.

2) Bantams (DOB 1998-1999)

Players traditionally skate approximately 2 practice hours a week and 45 games in the Valley League, plus tournaments and playoffs. The ice times and locations vary.

3) Pee Wee (DOB 2000-2001)

Players traditionally skate approximately 2 practice hours a week and 45 games in the Valley League, plus tournaments and playoffs. The ice times and locations vary.

4) Squirts (DOB 2002-2003)

Players traditionally skate approximately 2 practice hours a week and 45 games in the Valley League, plus tournaments and playoffs. The ice times and locations vary.

5) Mites (DOB 2004-2005)

Players traditionally skate approximately 2 practice hours a week and 30 games in the Valley League, plus tournaments and playoffs. The ice times and locations vary.



Girls Program Information

For the 2012-2013 season, the Association would like to offer the same travel team levels (U8, U10, U12, and U14) and a High School U19 Half Season team. However, it must be noted that this program is still evolving. The actual teams will be put together based on the number of girls we have registered and there is a possibility of having two leagues for the travel teams.

1) Girls High School half season

Two practices, Skills once every other week and one game in a league. The season will end before Thanksgiving.

One practice, Skills once every other week and one game in a league. The season will end before Thanksgiving.

2) Girls U14 (DOB 1998-1999)

Players traditionally skate approximately 2 practice hours a week and approximately 45 games in an all-girls hockey league, plus tournaments and playoffs. The ice times and locations vary.

3) Girls U12 (DOB 2000-2001)

Players traditionally skate approximately 2 practice hours a week and approximately 45 games in an all-girls hockey league, plus tournaments and playoffs. The ice times and locations vary.

4) Girls U10 (DOB 2002-2003)

Players traditionally skate approximately 2 practice hours a week and approximately 45 games in the Valley League and possibly an all-girls hockey league, plus tournaments and playoffs. The ice times and locations vary.

5) Girls U8 (DOB 2004-2005)

For girls 8 and under. Players traditionally skate approximately 2 practice hours a week and one game a week in the Valley League. The ice times and locations vary.

If you are interested in any of the girls programs, please contact Doug Gallacher, Girls Director - douggallacher@yahoo.com



Coaching

As our current season winds down, it is time to begin organizing our coaches for next season's teams. We encourage all parents to volunteer their time and a coaching application is included.

For our current coaches, thank you for a great season. By sending in a new application along with the completed CORI form, you will again be considered for a coaching position. No applications will be considered without a properly completed CORI form.

For those of you that are currently not coaching, please consider submitting an application. Inexperience should not preclude you from helping out in some capacity. AHA is striving to provide training in the form of clinics and information that is aimed at developing all of our coaches and assistant coaches.

You can obtain a coaching application by going to <http://www.andoverhockey.org/coachapplication.pdf> , deadline for submitting coaching applications will be March 20, 2012 . Please send your application and CORI form to:

AHA Hockey Committee
P.O. Box 323 Andover, MA 01810

If you have any questions or would like to discuss a potential position, please contact AHA Director of Hockey, **Error! Reference source not found.** - rdevaney18@verizon.net

We look forward to seeing all the coaches at the mandatory coaches meeting in September.

