

Game Shirts FAQ

Needham Youth Hockey (NYH) will be providing all travel team players with new game jerseys for the 2011/12 season (Mite thru Bantam and including U10 girls). Although we traditionally do not provide game shirts for Midgets to help keep their program affordable, we can provide them should they choose they want them too. As shared previously, we be will be moving to a Navy Blue, Gold, and White uniform.

Numbers on New Game Shirts

As part of registration, we ask you to enter your player's top three choices for game shirt numbers (between 0 and 99). Please note that numbering is at the team level, it does not need to be unique across NYH. To help with this process, when you register your child, please have them pick at least one non-typical number.

Once rosters are set, numbers will be assigned for each team from oldest to youngest player using the choices provided. If none of your child's numbers are available, you will be contacted to make a fourth choice or we will assign the first available number (from lowest to highest) if NYH does not hear back within 48 hours.

What Size Shirt Should I Order?

As part of registration, we ask you to enter your player's game shirt size for next season. We recognize that it is hard to guess a shirt size in the spring when they grow so much over the summer. We will have a shirt sizing day in the Spring; when your player can try on sample shirts if you are concerned about sizing and/or want to adjust your order. We will have another sizing day right after the Fall tryouts for the younger players (we will not be ordering their shirts until after Fall tryouts). For sizing guidance, the best thing is to base your decision on the size of this year's game and practice shirts. Please note that NYH is not responsible if you order the incorrect size. You will need to re-order if the sizes are incorrect.

Spring Sizing Day is set for April 30th – details to follow as the day gets closer.

For goalies, we need to verify that our selected vendor (still TBD) has goalie cuts. We will have this information for our Spring sizing day.

Why Are We Getting New Game Shirts? Isn't that an Added Expense?

Primary reasons for moving to the new games shirts are:

1. Many parents and players have asked NYH over the past few years to move to newer light weight shirts and wanted the options to choose numbers and have the name put directly on the

shirt instead of ordering and sewing on name plates. Like other sports then kids wanted to keep their shirts.

2. NYH felt a need to update “our look” and families overwhelmingly voted for new color scheme and style
3. Reduce the administrative effort on NYH equipment manager and coaches of managing two sets of game shirts for every team
4. It was becoming increasingly difficult to get replacement game shirts and with many shirts aging there would have been significant costs to replace shirts over the next couple of years

While there is a cost increase for new shirts, NYH would have had to increase costs to cover the replacement of aging shirts, and based on family feedback – we feel the benefits out weight the increased costs.

Names on New Game Shirts

Our new game shirts will include player names on the back of the shirts (no more panels to stitch on :). Our default assumption is that we will put a player’s last name on the shirt. If you want something different (e.g., “B. JONES” instead of “JONES”), please email your request to (msvturner@hotmail.com).

Do I Need to Order New Shirts Each Year?

Families should assume that they will need to order new shirts each year. This year is easy; everyone needs a new game shirt. Once we get through working out this year’s plans and changes, we will refine the registration process to enable you to choose and discount registration accordingly. You may not need a new set of game shirts if your player’s shirts still fit them and the shirts are in good shape. Based on discussions with other programs, we find that approximately 75% of players will need/want new shirts either due to size, wear/tear, conflict with choice of number (ex: squirt a and pw b1 both make pw a and have an shirt with #8).

Can I help with this since NYH is an all-volunteer organization?

Yes, we need a new Equipment/Uniform Coordinator to help define and drive all of this. Please contact Mike Turner if you are interested (msvturner@hotmail.com).

This Year’s Game Shirts

With NYH getting new game shirts, there is no need for NYH to collect this year’s games shirts. They are yours to do with what you like. Get with your team manager to retrieve your player’s shirts if you want them. For those shirts not claimed, NYH will ask the coaches to drop them at goodwill.

With any new or changed process, there are bound to be a few challenges. Thank you in advance for helping us further improve all NYH processes.