

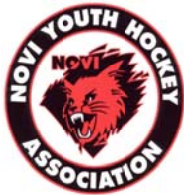


THE FACTCAT

January 2012

Neck Guards Mouth Guards

All NYHA players are required to wear a properly worn neck guard and properly use a mouth guard whether they are at the Novi Ice Arena or some other rink. Enforcement starts with parents. No neck guard or mouth guard, no ice . . . games and practices! Join us please in keeping our kids safe on the ice.



Novi Youth Hockey Association

42400 Nick Lidstrom Drive
Novi, MI 48375
248-735-0393

E-mail:
info@noviyouthhockey.org

Website:
www.noviyouthhockey.org

Angela Petty
Program Administrator

NYHA Office Hours
Wednesdays: 6-9pm
Saturdays: 9am-12pm

Mailboxes for every team and all NYHA Board members are found on the main level next to the Blue Rink windows in the Novi Ice Arena

Happy New Year!!

An Update from the NYHA President . . .

There is still a lot of hockey to be played and experiences to be cultivated for the season. Don't miss out! I hope that everyone is having fun and improving. If you have any suggestions on how to make your experience better, please share them with your head coach or team manager as appropriate. Get involved. I want to thank everyone for their continued support and if you need to contact any Board Member, please contact us at info@noviyouthhockey.org

Bob DeSpir

ICE CHIPS

Little tidbits of great information!

Mentoring The NYHA is teaming with both Novi and Northville High school varsity hockey programs to provide a mentoring opportunity. Both male and female high school varsity players will be attending at least one practice involving NYHA teams (schedules permitting). These players will be interacting with NYHA participants in the locker room before and after practice and will be participating in the practices. This is a great opportunity for these players to give back to the community and allow the NYHA participants to be exposed to varsity hockey.

Training The NYHA provides funds to our House MiniMite through Bantam teams to have pre-qualified instructors come to your practice and instruct your team. Head coaches need to schedule this training. Has your team taken advantage of this opportunity?

Dues The final dues payment is required to be paid by January 15 to the NYHA office. This is the final payment for the 2011-2012 season. Yipee!

Team Salah A member of the NYHA family was recently diagnosed with an aggressive brain tumor (medulloblastoma). Show your team spirit and join "Team Salah" to help the family with the significant costs associated with helping Anthony get better. A fundraiser is in progress and details are on the Mite #1 website. An added fundraiser will be incorporated as part of the Coaches Cup in March.

Upcoming Events

January

- 3** Learn to Play Session 2 Begins (ends March 27)
- 7** District Playoffs begin for eligible teams (ends January 29)
- 15** Final dues payment submitted to the NYHA office (through team managers)
- 20** LCAHL Travel Divisions Playoff First Round Robin begins
- Travel Coach Evaluations (administered electronically)

February

- 2-6** District Playoff Quarter Finals and Semi-Finals
NYHA hosting PeeWee A
- 5** Super Bowl Sunday
- 11-12** District 4 Championships
- 17** LCAHL Travel Divisions Playoff First Round Robin Ends
- 18** Hockey Day in Michigan
- 19** LCAHL House Divisions Second Season Ends
- 25-26** LCAHL Playoff Quarter Finals and Semi-Finals
- 27** Michigan High School Athletic Association Regionals (ends March 3)
- Returning player registration forms for 2012-2013 distributed
- Nominations solicited for the NYHA Board Membership
- Mini Mite and Mite I-275 League Play continues
- House Coach Evaluations (administered electronically)

March

- 1-31** NYHA In-House Tournament
- 2-18** MAHA State Playoffs
- 3-18** LCAHL Playoff Finals
- 6-9** Michigan High School Athletic Association Quarter Finals/Semi Finals
- 10** Michigan High School Athletic Association Finals
- 17** NYHA Coaches Cup Game at the Novi Ice Arena (6pm)
- 31** MAHA regular season ends
- NYHA Association Evaluations (electronically administered)
- Elections for NYHA Board Members

Join us on Facebook



Learn To Play Hockey

The Novi Youth Hockey Association is still accepting participants into our Learn to Play Hockey Program Session 2 (January through March). Visit our web-site under the **Learn To Play Hockey Program** for full details and an application form.

Audience Participation

The NYHA Board has instituted an Audience Comment Period during the monthly Board Meeting in order to hear all members . The Audience Comment period will be at 8:00pm on the first Thursday of each month during the regularly scheduled Board Meetings. The Board requests that speakers respect the three minute time limit for individual comments and the five minute limit for an individual speaking on behalf of a group. This period is for members to present items for Board consideration. The Board may or may not elect to conduct Q & A at this time or may or may not enter into discussion at this time. The time limits will be adhered to.

Post Season Player Contacts

Although it is only January, we feel it is not too early to make everyone aware of the rules regarding the formation of Spring teams. Coaches are not allowed to contact players who are on an active roster unless they have contacted first the player's current coach and then the parents of the player. Direct contact with a player should never take place unless the current coach (first) and the parent (second) have given their approval. The rules governing team selection and tampering may be found in the MAHA Annual Guide. Not abiding by these rules can result in significant disciplinary action.

NYHA Mission Statement

The NYHA Organization is committed to cultivating and developing youths in the sport of Ice Hockey. This is achieved through dedicated volunteers teaching and improving hockey skills in an atmosphere that promotes good sportsmanship. This model provides each and every person within the Novi Youth Hockey Association, the opportunity to learn, grow and enjoy the game of hockey.



Resumes / Applications are Due
by Noon on January 27, 2012

Applications available at
www.noviyouthhockey.org

The NYHA is now accepting Head Coach applications for Novi Ice Cats' Spring 2012 and 2012-2013 Seasons

Squirt A (2003)
Squirt AA (2002)
Pee Wee A (2001)
Pee Wee AA (2000)
Bantam A (1999)
Bantam AA (1998)
Midget A (1997)

TO APPLY:

Please send coaching resume / application
and references to:

Novi Youth Hockey Association
42400 Nick Lidstrom Drive
Novi, MI 48375

OR submit application by email to
"Attention NYHA Travel Director" at:
info@noviyouthhockey.org

Novi Youth Hockey Association is now accepting applications for a Director of Girls' Hockey!

This new position entails the development of an exciting
recreational House program for girls

TO APPLY:

Please submit your resume / application and references to:
info@noviyouthhockey.org

OR email your application to:

Novi Youth Hockey Association
42400 Nick Lidstrom Drive
Novi, MI 48375



FOR MORE INFORMATION:
(248) 735-0393
42400 Nick Lidstrom Drive
Novi, Michigan 48375
www.noviyouthhockey.org



Earn Dollars For Hockey

Are you looking for ways to reduce the costs of hockey for your family? If so, you should check out the programs by both Krogers and Hiller's that can help.

These two programs allow you to earn dollars towards your Novi Youth Hockey dues for next season by purchases that you make at Hillers and Krogers.

Krogers Community Rewards

The Kroger Community Rewards program works automatically when an associated Kroger Plus Card is used at the time qualifying items are purchased at a Kroger store. Monies earned are based on the amount of purchases made during the term of the program, subject to household, association, and program maximums. Information regarding qualifying items, program dates, household, association, and program maximums, and more can be found at www.kroger.com.

Hillers Scrip Card Program

Through the NYHA, Hiller's will provide scrip cards to each interested NYHA player, family member, or friend. The scrip cards are pre-assigned to the NYHA and work like gift cards. Participants can load the cards with a balance at the store, and then use the cards to purchase items at any Hiller's market. The cards can be loaded and re-loaded as often as needed. Each time the card is loaded, 5% of the amount added to the card will be contributed to the NYHA and will be reported with the associated card number. More information can be found at www.hillers.com.

To sign up for either program please go to www.NoviYouthHockey.org



MORE ICE CHIPS

The Blue Line Café

Teams are encouraged to use the food facilities at the rink when having team related events at the arena. The Blue Line Café has a fine selection for hosting team events.

Dryland Training Facility

For those of you who may not know, the Novi Ice Arena has created a dry land facility with equipment. The Arena, in combination with the NYHA, are now able to offer this opportunity. Please check with the front desk at the Arena to reserve a time for your team. This now places the NYHA in line with the tenants of USA Hockey's American Development Model. Many of our teams will be participating in an Open House. During the Open House, Triad Health & Fitness will be leading teams through a spirited work out. There is a \$20/hr room rental and equipment fee. Teams can lead their own work out or contract with Triad to lead the workout. Reserve Room A for your event and when you check in with the front desk at the Arena, if Room B is also open, you can request to use it as well with no additional charge. The current equipment consists of: medicine balls, jump ropes, balance ball, low hurdles, dumbbells, jump boxes, and resistance bands.

Districts

Congratulations to our NYHA teams who are advancing to the first round of District competition: Squirt #6 Tigers, Squirt #2 Polar Cats, Squirt A Ice Cats, Squirt AA Ice Cats, Pee Wee #5 Snow Cats, Pee Wee #7 Tigers, Pee Wee A Ice Cats, Pee Wee AA Ice Cats, Bantam #3 Cougars, Bantam #5 Sabres, Bantam A Ice Cats, Bantam AA Ice Cats, Midget #1 Predators, Midget #2 Panthers, Midget BB SaberCats.

What Do You Think?

The NYHA will be soliciting your opinions in the upcoming months. In January, the NYHA will be sending a survey to all of the families in our travel program asking them for their feedback on the coaching staff of their current team. The NYHA will be doing the same for our house program in mid February. In March, the Association will be asking all our member families for feedback on the Association. Please take the time to complete these surveys as they drive the decisions made by the NYHA.

MORE ICE CHIPS

I-275 League Our MiniMites and Mites are competing in the I-275 League. The MiniMites are playing their games cross ice. The Mite half ice teams are utilizing the ice surface playing their games half ice. This is an exciting venue of competition best suited for players at this age level. Some of our Mites are on teams playing the full ice surface. No matter which playing mode your child is in, we hope this is an exciting time for both you and your child. If you have any suggestions on how to improve this experience, please contact Todd Martin, our I-275 League Coordinator (tmartin@noviyouthhockey.org).

2012-2013 Season Registration Registration forms for the 2012-2013 season will be distributed in February and are due back by March 01 to guarantee your spot in the NYHA House program. The registration fee increases by \$25 after March 01. Forms will be distributed by team managers.

Coach Training This year all the NYHA coaches were required by USA Hockey to complete an on line class specific to the age level they are coaching. Topics covered are: Long Term Athlete Development, The American Development Model, Practice Organization and Ice Utilization, Small Area Games, Teaching Skills Through Progressions, Teaching Fundamental Team Concepts, Teaching Body Contact and Checking, Goaltending Development, Age Appropriate Strength and Conditioning, Concussions and Athlete Safety, Cognitive Development in Youth Hockey, Nutrition, Alcohol and Drug Awareness, AND Sleep and Its Effect on Performance. According to our coaches, this takes from 7 to 12 hours to complete. Thank you to our coaches.

In House Tournament In March, our House teams will be competing in an all NYHA competition. Details with the brackets will be forthcoming.

Pee Wee A Districts The NYHA will be hosting the second round of districts February 1 through 5. Volunteers are needed. Please contact the NYHA at info@noviyouthhockey.org if you can help. We are looking for volunteers to run check in, operate the clock, and do the game scoresheet.

Wear Your Jersey To School The NYHA will be sponsoring a wear your NYHA jersey to school day on February 03. We will be rolling out the details shortly. This is an exciting opportunity for all our participants to wear their NYHA colors at school.

FaceBook Did you know that the NYHA is now on FaceBook? Join us. Friend us. Check us out.

Tournaments Has your team recently been at a tournament? Did you have a good experience? Did you have an unsatisfactory experience? Team managers are encouraged to provide feedback from the 'Manager' page on the NYHA website. This allows teams to share both their good and bad experiences with other NYHA teams and help them in selecting events that will lead to a good experience.

PuckMasters This season, the NYHA contracted with PuckMasters of Wixom. Our Mite through Pee Wee teams receive 45 min of on ice instruction provided by PuckMasters and 45 min of additional ice for team use. We are gathering feedback to determine if the program should continue in 2012-2013.

Sponsor Letters The NYHA Executive Treasurer provides a letter from the NYHA to each of the team sponsors recognizing their tax deductible donation. These letters are sent directly to team sponsors. Thank you to all our team sponsors.

Monthly Statements Every month, team managers are required to submit to the NYHA a statement of the financial activity of their team. These statements are provided to the NYHA and team managers are required to send a copy to each team member monthly. Are you seeing your team statements?

Benches Coaches are reminded that the maximum number of coaches behind the bench is 4. these coaches must be rostered. Coaches not at the proper level are to be removed from team rosters. ALL coaches behind the bench are to sign the score sheet showing their CEP number and date.

Coach Money CEP Level reimbursements are available now. Complete the form on the website and submit to the NYHA office. On Line and USA Hockey registration re-imbursements will be in February for those coaches that met the requirements,, no paperwork needed.

MORE ICE CHIPS

Referee Liaison The NYHA has established the position of Referee Liaison. Issues related to referees should be submitted to Vince Lorelli at vlorelli@noviyouthhockey.org. Concerns on specific calls made by referees are generally, not an appealable item. However, let Vince know what your concern is. It is the expectation that the NYHA contracted referees are on the ice prior to the teams entering the ice surface. If you observe this is not the case, please contact Vince.

Coaches Cup This is an annual tradition where our coaches compete against other coaches in a game. This year the game will be played on Saturday March 17 at 6:pm. Make sure you don't miss this opportunity to see your coach in action. Make sure he keeps his head up and stick on the ice. This year the event will also include an association fund raiser for Mite Anthony Salah.

Team Accomplishments We have begun posting these to the website. Please submit your new accomplishments to rdespirt@noviyouthhockey.org for inclusion to the website.

LCAHL This season, the NYHA and the Little Caesar's Amateur Hockey League were able to work out a major change in the house team competition schedule. In prior seasons, there were only two seasons- the regular season and the play off season. With the length of the regular season, it was possible for some of our teams to be in a position where they were not competitive. This season, the NYHA worked with LCAHL to create three seasons. The first season establishes the competition level of each team. This information is then used to create a second season where teams compete at a more balanced level. This is then followed by a play off season. In total, the number of games should remain the same. We hope that this has provided a better competitive level.

Board Elections In February, the Board will be soliciting membership. The NYHA Board is composed of 12 members with three year terms. Each year, four positions are up for re-election. Some current members choose to run again, some choose to move on. Please consider volunteering your time and talents to the NYHA. The elections will be in March.

Who Can Be On The Ice? Teams are reminded that the only people allowed on the ice during practice are those players rostered to the team and coaches. This prohibition includes other children of coaches and brothers and sisters or players not on the team, even if rostered on another NYHA team. Having others on the ice invalidates the USA Hockey insurance and puts the head coach at risk for disciplinary action. 'Students' are allowed on the ice that have completed the 'Student Coaching Clinic' conducted by MAHA D4. This is a USA Hockey rule and not negotiable.

The Helmet Rule All coaches on the ice are required to wear a helmet. Guest 'instructors' on the ice with teams must wear helmets. If your team has some one come to your practice to work with your team and they are on the ice, they must have a helmet. This includes coaches, specialty coaches, guest instructors, trainers, helpers, etc. Unfortunately, failure to follow this policy puts the head coach at risk for disciplinary action. Rink personnel will ask those not following this policy to leave the ice. This is a USA Hockey rule and not negotiable.

The NYHA 2011-2012 Board of Directors

The NYHA Board consists of the following elected volunteers:

Bob DeSpirt - President - bdespirt@noviyouthhockey.org
Mark Berke - Vice President - mberke@noviyouthhockey.org
Greg Antilla - Executive Treasurer- gantilla@noviyouthhockey.org
Todd Pado - Associate Treasurer - tpado@noviyouthhockey.org
Joy Orlich - Secretary - jorlich@noviyouthhockey.org
Scott Novell - NYHA Webmaster - snovell@noviyouthhockey.org
Stacey Cerroni - scerroni@noviyouthhockey.org
Phil Coleman - pcoleman@noviyouthhockey.org
Vince Lorelli - vlorelli@noviyouthhockey.org
Michelle Demshuk - mdemshuk@noviyouthhockey.org
Todd Martin - tmartin@noviyouthhockey.org
Dave Mueller - dmueller@noviyouthhockey.org