2013-2014 8 & Under Membership Report





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This report focuses on the foundation of USA Hockey's player base – the 8 & under age category. It examines the entry-level age class both at the National and Affiliate level for the past five seasons, as well as the past three seasons at the association level. The objective is to help all levels of USA Hockey's structure understand their past performance and create achievable growth goals for the 2014-15 season.

Recently, concentrated growth efforts in the 8 & under age category have produced positive results:

- 8 & under participation has seen a 16% increase since the 2007-08 season
- During the 2013-14 season there were 103,961 players; the 3rd highest total in USA Hockey history

To continue increasing participation, USA Hockey's efforts remain focused on these key initiatives:

- Attracting new players each season
- Retaining players from one season to the next

By increasing the number of players at the 8 & under age level, associations are positively impacting growth at the older age levels. The table below demonstrates that recent growth at the 8 & under age level is improving the larger 9 to 14 age groups, thus supplementing long-term growth.

TOTAL BOYS & GIRLS HOCKEY PARTICIPATION: AGES 9 THROUGH 14

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Participants	169,025	171,826	174,884	175,867	177,906
% increase	-2.5%	1.7%	1.8%	0.6%	1.2%

Putting growth initiatives into action requires a coordinated effort between USA Hockey national staff and local youth hockey volunteers. In an effort to work more closely with local associations, USA Hockey has instituted the 2 and 2 Challenge. The 2 and 2 Challenge, further explained on page 5, is a comprehensive program that utilizes existing national growth programs, resources, and tools to help youth hockey leaders grow participation with their local associations. To achieve these growth goals, the 2 and 2 Challenge asks participating associations to add two new players and retain two more players than the previous season's total.

Combining established growth initiatives with USA Hockey's American Development Model will ensure greater skill development and increased participation.

HOW TO READ THE DATA CHARTS IN THIS REPORT

Current season performance compared to 2 and 2 Challenge -Total number of 8 & under players Current season performance compared to previous season Number of players acquired **BOYS & GIRLS 8U** 2 AND 2 CHALLENGE VS. VS. 14-15 09-10 10-11 11-12 12-13 13-14 13-14 GOAL GOAL ACTUAL **GOAL** 102956 TOTAL 95775 105394 107387 103961 108464 (4503)1005 109121 4.5% 10.0% 1.9% -4.1% 1.0% NEW 41967 48254 45991 41000 44628 43754 874 3628 47208 -10.9% 6.0% 15.0% -4.7% 8.8% RET 53808 57140 61396 61956 59333 64710 (5377)(2623)61913 3.4% 6.2% 7.4% 0.9% -4.2% LOST 15184 19229 19509 18316 1290 15620 # OF ASSOCIATIONS -0.8% 2.9% 23.1% 1.5% -6.1% **AVERAGE # PLAYERS/ASSOCIATION** 80.6

Number of players that left youth hockey

2 and 2 Challenge goals for the upcoming season, see pages 6 & 7 for more information



2013-14 KEY TAKEAWAYS—NATIONAL

Total

- In 2013-14, the total number of players ages 8 & under increased by 1,005 (1.0%) to 103,961.
- With this increase, the 2013-14 season represents the 3rd largest total of players at the 8 & under level in USA Hockey's history.

Acquisition

- New players increased from 41,000 to 44,628 in 2013-14, an addition of 3,628 (8.8%).
- This is the first increase in new players since the 2010-11 season.

Retention

- Retained players decreased by 2,623 (-4.2%) to 59,333.
- The drop in retention was the result of back-to-back seasons (2011-13) of decreased player acquisition.

NATIONAL BOYS AND GIRLS 8U

	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14
TOTAL	95775	105394	107387	102956	103961
%	4.5%	10.0%	1.9%	-4.1%	1.0%
NEW	41967	48254	45991	41000	44628
%	6.0%	15.0%	-4.7%	-10.9%	8.8%
RET	53808	57140	61396	61956 593	59333
%	3.4%	6.2%	7.4%	0.9%	-4.2%
LOST	15184	15620	19229	19509	18316
%	-0.8%	2.9%	23.1%	1.5%	-6.1%

NATIONAL BOYS 8U

	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14
TOTAL	81978	89907	91199	87805	88168
%	4.1%	9.7%	1.4%	-3.7%	0.4%
NEW	34819	40058	37875	33917	36744
%	5.5%	15.0%	-5.4%	-10.5%	8.3%
RET	47159	49849	53324	53888	51424
%	3.0%	5.7%	7.0%	1.1%	-4.6%
LOST	11932	12350	15149	15308	14559
%	-1.9%	3.5%	22.7%	1.0%	-4.9%

NATIONAL GIRLS 8U

	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14
TOTAL	13798	15487	16188	15152	15794
%	7.2%	-1.9%	4.5%	-6.4%	4.2%
NEW	7149	8197	8116	7085	7887
%	8.3%	3.9%	-1.0%	-12.7%	11.3%
RET	6649	7290	8072	8067	7907
%	6.0%	-7.8%	10.7%	-0.1%	-2.0%
LOST	3253	3272	4081	4201	3759
%	3.4%	-13.0%	24.7%	2.9%	-10.5%



2013-14 KEY TAKEAWAYS—TEXAS

Total

- The total number of players ages 8 & under in Texas increased by 190 (17.3%) to 1,288.
- This was Texas' largest total participation for the past five seasons.

Acquisition

- New players increased by 242 (39.7%) to 851.
- 851 is the highest total of new players over the previous five seasons.

Retention

- Retained players decreased by 52 (-10.6%) from 2012-13 to 437.
- The 2013-14 season was the second consecutive decrease in retained players.

TEXAS BOYS AND GIRLS 8U

	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14
TOTAL	939	1094	1083	1098	1288
%	-1.9%	16.5%	-1.0%	1.4%	17.3%
NEW	475	622	547	609	851
%	-3.5%	30.9%	-12.1%	11.3%	39.7%
RETAINED	464	472	536	489	437
%	-0.2%	1.7%	13.6%	-8.8%	-10.6%
LOST	152	155	224	217	295
%	-57.4%	2.0%	44.5%	-3.1%	35.9%

TEXAS BOYS 8U

	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14
TOTAL	880	1020	1005	1025	1194
%	-13.6%	15.9%	-1.5%	2.0%	16.5%
NEW	441	571	497	563	780
%	-15.7%	29.5%	-13.0%	13.3%	38.5%
RETAINED	439	449	508	462	414
%	-11.5%	2.3%	13.1%	-9.1%	-10.4%
LOST	141	140	199	194	268
%	-22.5%	-0.7%	42.1%	-2.5%	38.1%

TEXAS GIRLS 8U

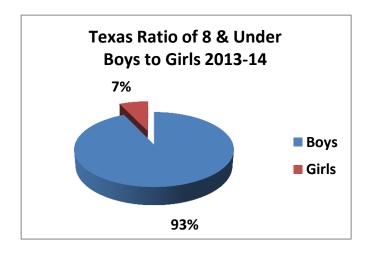
	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14
TOTAL	59	74	78	73	94
%	13.5%	25.4%	5.4% -6	-6.4%	28.8%
NEW	34	51	50	46	71
%	6.3%	50.0%	-2.0%	-8.0%	54.3%
RETAINED	25	23	28	27	23
%	25.0%	-8.0%	21.7%	-3.6%	-14.8%
LOST	11	15	25	23	27
%	-21.4%	36.4%	66.7%	-8.0%	17.4%

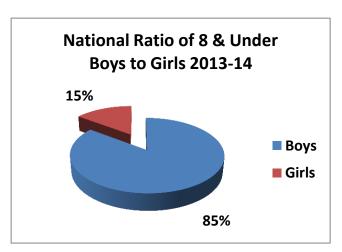


RATIO OF BOYS TO GIRLS—8 & UNDERS

Texas: Boys represented 93% of all 8 & under youth hockey participants, while girls represented 7%.

National: Boys represented 85% of all 8 & under youth hockey participants, while girls represented 15%.





RETENTION INCREASES WITH AGE

Youth hockey retention increases with both age and seasons accrued. While retention rates increase from Squirts (9 years old) on up, the overall growth of hockey relies on acquiring more 8 & under players.

Texas' retention results for 2013-14 by age segment:

•	16.1% of all 4 Year Olds returned as 5 Year Olds	National Average 36.5%
•	28.7% of all 5 Year Olds returned as 6 Year Olds	National Average 54.9%
•	39.7% of all 6 Year Olds returned as 7 Year Olds	National Average 70.2%
•	54.1% of all 7 Year Olds returned as 8 Year Olds	National Average 78.2%

70.8% of all Squirts returned in 2013-14
National Average 86.8%
84.2% of all Pee Wees returned in 2013-14
National Average 92.1%
89.0% of all Bantams returned in 2013-14
National Average 94.6%



2 AND 2 CHALLENGE

The 2 and 2 Challenge is a comprehensive growth program for local associations. It is a blueprint that guides youth hockey leadership through national programs and tools to reach their growth goals of acquiring two additional players and retaining two more players than last season.

To complete the 2 and 2 Challenge, associations utilize three programs that drive growth – Retention, Acquisition & Conversion.

RETENTION—Welcome Back Week September 15th-21st

Reaching out with a personal invitation to return to youth hockey is crucial. For this program, associations coordinate phone calls inviting families back to youth hockey.



ACQUISITION—Try Hockey For Free Days November 8th & February 21st

Try Hockey events provide associations the opportunity to attract new families to the rink. Last season over 28,000 kids were introduced to youth hockey through this program.



CONVERSION—Transition Program

Children that sample youth hockey don't always become new hockey players. A low-cost, low-commitment program to easily transition families from trying hockey to participating in youth hockey programs will significantly increase the likelihood of adding more players. Examples of how this can be achieved is offering a Learn-to-Play program or mixing prospective players into existing beginner programs.



By taking advantage of these national programs, participating associations will be nationally recognized as achieving the 2 and 2 Challenge and be rewarded for their efforts.

To learn more and to accept the 2 and 2 Challenge, visit www.2and2Challenge.com or call (719) 538-1124.





2 AND 2 CHALLENGE GOALS

ASSOCIATION

The 2 and 2 Challenge goals for every association are to add two additional new players and retain two more players than the previous season's 8 & under player total.

Below is an example of an association that achieved their 2 and 2 Challenge goals from this past season and their new goals for 2014-15:

Previous three seasons results —				2 and 2	Challenge	results and go	oals
BOYS & GIRLS_8 & UNDER				2 AND 2 CHALLENGE			
	11-12	12-13	13-14	13-14 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	14-15 GOAL
TOTAL	71	64	79	68	11	15	83
NEW	37	32	42	34	8	10	44
RETAINED	34	32	37	34	3	5	39
LOST	23	25	15				

If the 2 and 2 Challenge goals are achieved again in 2014-15, this program will enjoy a 5.1% increase.

• TOTAL: 44 new + 39 retained = 83 total players

• **NEW:** 42 + 2 = 44 new players

• **RETAINED:** 37+ 2 = 39 retained players

TEXAS

TEXAS	2013-14 GOAL	2013-14 ACTUAL	2014-15 GOAL
TOTAL	1,170	1,288	1,336
NEW	645	851	875
RETAINED	525	437	461

Based on 12 associations that registered 5 players or more, the 2014-15 goals are:

• TOTAL: 1,288 + 48 = 1,336 (3.7%)

• **NEW:** 851 + 24 = **875 (2.8%)**

• **RETAINED:** 437 + 24 = **461 (5.5%)**

NATIONAL

NATIONAL	2013-14 GOAL	2013-14 ACTUAL	2014-15 GOAL
TOTAL	108,464	103,961	109,121
NEW	43,754	44,628	47,208
RETAINED	64,710	59,333	61,913

Based on 1,290 associations that registered 5 players or more, the 2014-15 goals are:

• TOTAL: 103,961 + 5,160 = **109,121 (5.0%)**

• **NEW:** 44,628 + 2,580 = **47,208 (5.8%)**

• **RETAINED:** 59,333 + 2,580 = **61,913 (4.3%)**



ASSOCIATIONS ACCOMPLISHING THEIR 2 AND 2 CHALLENGE GOALS

While several associations experienced growth, none successfully met their 2 and 2 Challenge goals of growing by two players for both new and retained players.

TEXAS' 2013-14 ASSOCIATION PERFORMANCE

<u>Ass</u>	<u>ociation</u>	<u>Net Growth</u>
1.	Aerodrome Hockey Association – Willowbrook	+27
2.	Allen Community Ice Rink	+20
3.	Corpus Christi Youth Hockey Association	+9
4.	El Paso Hockey Association	+9
5.	Amarillo Hockey Association Inc	+1
6.	Bay Area Houston Hockey Association	+1
7.	Jackalopes Amateur Hockey Association	-1
8.	Ice at The Parks	-2
9.	Roadrunner/Chaparral Ice	-8
10.	Dallas Stars Youth Hockey League House	-9
11.	Polar Ice Grapevine	-21
12.	NYTEX Sports LLC	-27



TXH0065 AERODROME HOCKEY ASSOCIATION-WILLOWBROOK

BOYS & GIRLS_8	3 & UNDER			2 AND 2 CHALLENGE				
	11-12	12-13	13-14	13-14 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	14-15 GOAL	
TOTAL	56	126	153	130	23	27	157	
NEW	23	70	101	72	29	31	103	
RETAINED	33	56	52	58	(6)	(4)	54	
LOST	6	4	56					

BOYS_8 & UNDE	ER			GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	11-12	12-13	13-14		11-12	12-13	13-14	
TOTAL	52	117	143	TOTAL	4	9	10	
NEW	21	63	92	NEW	2	7	9	
RETAINED	31	54	51	RETAINED	2	2	1	
LOST	2	4	50	LOST	4	0	6	
RATIO BOYS								
TO GIRLS			93.5%				6.5%	

TXH1017 ALLEN COMMUNITY ICE RINK

BOYS & GIRLS_8	3 & UNDER			2 AND 2 CHALLENGE							
	11-12	12-13	13-14	13-14 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	14-15 GOAL				
TOTAL	24	25	45	29	16	20	49				
NEW	19	12	39	14	25	27	41				
RETAINED	5	13	6	15	(9)	(7)	8				
LOST	14	9	11								

BOYS_8 & UNDE	R			GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	11-12	12-13	13-14		11-12	12-13	13-14	
TOTAL	22	24	43	TOTAL	2	1	2	
NEW	17	11	37	NEW	2	1	2	
RETAINED	5	13	6	RETAINED	0	0	0	
LOST	13	7	10	LOST	1	2	1	
RATIO BOYS								
TO GIRLS			95.6%				4.4%	

TXH0040 AMARILLO HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INC

BOYS & GIRLS_8	3 & UNDER			2 AND 2 CHALLENGE				
	11-12	12-13	13-14	13-14 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	14-15 GOAL	
TOTAL	32	40	41	44	(3)	1	45	
NEW	20	28	22	30	(8)	(6)	24	
RETAINED	12	12	19	14	5	7	21	
LOST	8	16	11					

BOYS_8 & UND	ER			GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	11-12	12-13	13-14		11-12	12-13	13-14	
TOTAL	29	40	39	TOTAL	3	0	2	
NEW	18	28	20	NEW	2	0	2	
RETAINED	11	12	19	RETAINED	1	0	0	
LOST	8	13	11	LOST	0	3	0	
RATIO BOYS								
TO GIRLS			95.1%				4.9%	



TXH0069 BAY AREA HOUSTON HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

BOYS & GIRLS_8	8 & UNDER			2 AND 2 CHALLENGE				
	11-12	12-13	13-14	13-14 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	14-15 GOAL	
TOTAL	28	24	25	28	(3)	1	29	
NEW	14	13	12	15	(3)	(1)	14	
RETAINED	14	11	13	13	0	2	15	
LOST	1	12	8					

BOYS_8 & UND	ER			GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	11-12	12-13	13-14		11-12	12-13	13-14	
TOTAL	26	20	23	TOTAL	2	4	2	
NEW	13	9	12	NEW	1	4	0	
RETAINED	13	11	11	RETAINED	1	0	2	
LOST	1	11	7	LOST	0	1	1	
RATIO BOYS								
TO GIRLS			92.0%				8.0%	

TXH0095 CORPUS CHRISTI YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

BOYS & GIRLS_8	3 & UNDER			2 AND 2 CHALLENGE				
	11-12	12-13	13-14	13-14 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	14-15 GOAL	
TOTAL	0	0	9	4	5	9	13	
NEW	0	0	8	2	6	8	10	
RETAINED	0	0	1	2	(1)	1	3	
LOST	0	0	1					

BOYS_8 & UND	ER			GIRLS_8 & UND	GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	11-12	12-13	13-14		11-12	12-13	13-14		
TOTAL	0	0	6	TOTAL	0	0	3		
NEW	0	0	5	NEW	0	0	3		
RETAINED	0	0	1	RETAINED	0	0	0		
LOST	0	0	1	LOST	0	0	0		
RATIO BOYS									
TO GIRLS			66.7%				33.3%		

TXH1073 DALLAS STARS YOUTH HOCKEY LEAGUE HOUSE

	TATIONS DIVERSITY TO THE TO THE TO THE TOTAL											
BOYS & GIRLS_8	8 & UNDER			2 AND 2 CHALLENGE								
	11-12	12-13	13-14	13-14 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	14-15 GOAL					
TOTAL	0	181	172	185	(13)	(9)	176					
NEW	0	181	121	183	(62)	(60)	123					
RETAINED	0	0	51	2	49	51	53					
LOST	0	0	47									

BOYS_8 & UND	R			GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	11-12	12-13	13-14		11-12	12-13	13-14	
TOTAL	0	175	163	TOTAL	0	6	9	
NEW	0	175	114	NEW	0	6	7	
RETAINED	0	0	49	RETAINED	0	0	2	
LOST	0	0	47	LOST	0	0	0	
RATIO BOYS								
TO GIRLS			94.8%				5.2%	



TXH0066 EL PASO HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

BOYS & GIRLS_8 & UNDER				2 AND 2 CHALLENGE				
	11-12	12-13	13-14	13-14 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	14-15 GOAL	
TOTAL	19	10	19	14	5	9	23	
NEW	9	3	18	5	13	15	20	
RETAINED	10	7	1	9	(8)	(6)	3	
LOST	3	5	2					

BOYS_8 & UNDE	BOYS_8 & UNDER				GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	11-12	12-13	13-14		11-12	12-13	13-14		
TOTAL	17	8	14	TOTAL	2	2	5		
NEW	8	2	13	NEW	1	1	5		
RETAINED	9	6	1	RETAINED	1	1	0		
LOST	2	4	1	LOST	1	1	1		
RATIO BOYS									
TO GIRLS			73.7%				26.3%		

TXH1024 ICE AT THE PARKS

BOYS & GIRLS_8 & UNDER				2 AND 2 CHALLENGE							
	11-12	12-13	13-14	13-14 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	14-15 GOAL				
TOTAL	0	12	10	16	(6)	(2)	14				
NEW	0	12	7	14	(7)	(5)	9				
RETAINED	0	0	3	2	1	3	5				
LOST	0	0	2								

BOYS_8 & UNDE	BOYS_8 & UNDER				GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	11-12	12-13	13-14		11-12	12-13	13-14		
TOTAL	0	11	8	TOTAL	0	1	2		
NEW	0	11	5	NEW	0	1	2		
RETAINED	0	0	3	RETAINED	0	0	0		
LOST	0	0	2	LOST	0	0	0		
RATIO BOYS TO GIRLS			80.0%				20.0%		
10 dikt3			80.0%				20.0%		

TXH0076 JACKALOPES AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

BOYS & GIRLS_8 & UNDER				2 AND 2 CHALLENGE				
	11-12	12-13	13-14	13-14 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	14-15 GOAL	
TOTAL	51	56	55	60	(5)	(1)	59	
NEW	23	29	34	31	3	5	36	
RETAINED	28	27	21	29	(8)	(6)	23	
LOST	5	4	15					

BOYS_8 & UND	BOYS_8 & UNDER				GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	11-12	12-13	13-14		11-12	12-13	13-14		
TOTAL	47	52	48	TOTAL	4	4	7		
NEW	19	25	29	NEW	4	4	5		
RETAINED	28	27	19	RETAINED	0	0	2		
LOST	5	3	14	LOST	0	1	1		
RATIO BOYS									
TO GIRLS			87.3%				12.7%		



TXH1037 NYTEX SPORTS LLC

BOYS & GIRLS &	R & UNDFR			2 AND 2 CHALLENGE			
11-12 12-13 13-14			13-14 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	14-15 GOAL	
TOTAL	55	50	23	54	(31)	(27)	27
NEW	55	31	10	33	(23)	(21)	12
RETAINED	0	19	13	21	(8)	(6)	15
LOST	3	13	14				

BOYS_8 & UNDE	BOYS_8 & UNDER				GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	11-12	12-13	13-14		11-12	12-13	13-14		
TOTAL	55	49	22	TOTAL	0	1	1		
NEW	55	30	9	NEW	0	1	1		
RETAINED	0	19	13	RETAINED	0	0	0		
LOST	3	13	13	LOST	0	0	1		
RATIO BOYS									
TO GIRLS			95.7%				4.3%		

TXH1072 POLAR ICE GRAPEVINE

BOYS & GIRLS_8 & UNDER				2 AND 2 CHALLENGE				
	11-12	12-13	13-14	13-14 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	14-15 GOAL	
TOTAL	18	35	14	39	(25)	(21)	18	
NEW	12	24	13	26	(13)	(11)	15	
RETAINED	6	11	1	13	(12)	(10)	3	
LOST	7	6	14					

BOYS_8 & UND	BOYS_8 & UNDER				GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	11-12	12-13	13-14		11-12	12-13	13-14		
TOTAL	17	29	13	TOTAL	1	6	1		
NEW	12	18	12	NEW	0	6	1		
RETAINED	5	11	1	RETAINED	1	0	0		
LOST	7	6	12	LOST	0	0	2		
RATIO BOYS									
TO GIRLS			92.9%				7.1%		

TXH0015 ROADRUNNER/CHAPARRAL ICE

BOYS & GIRLS_8	3 & UNDER			2 AND 2 CHALLENGE				
	11-12	12-13	13-14	13-14 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	14-15 GOAL	
TOTAL	86	86	78	90	(12)	(8)	82	
NEW	33	47	34	49	(15)	(13)	36	
RETAINED	53	39	44	41	3	5	46	
LOST	20	18	16					

BOYS_8 & UNDER				GIRLS_8 & UNDER			
	11-12	12-13	13-14		11-12	12-13	13-14
TOTAL	81	82	75	TOTAL	5	4	3
NEW	31	45	32	NEW	2	2	2
RETAINED	50	37	43	RETAINED	3	2	1
LOST	19	16	15	LOST	1	2	1
RATIO BOYS							
TO GIRLS			96.2%				3.8%