

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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VISION STATEMENT OF CYH

Enhancing the lives of the youth of our community through the sport of ice hockey.

Hockey's a funny game. You have to prove yourself every shift, every game. It's not up to anybody else. You have to take pride in yourself."

-Paul Coffey - Second all-time among NHL defensemen in goals, assists, and points

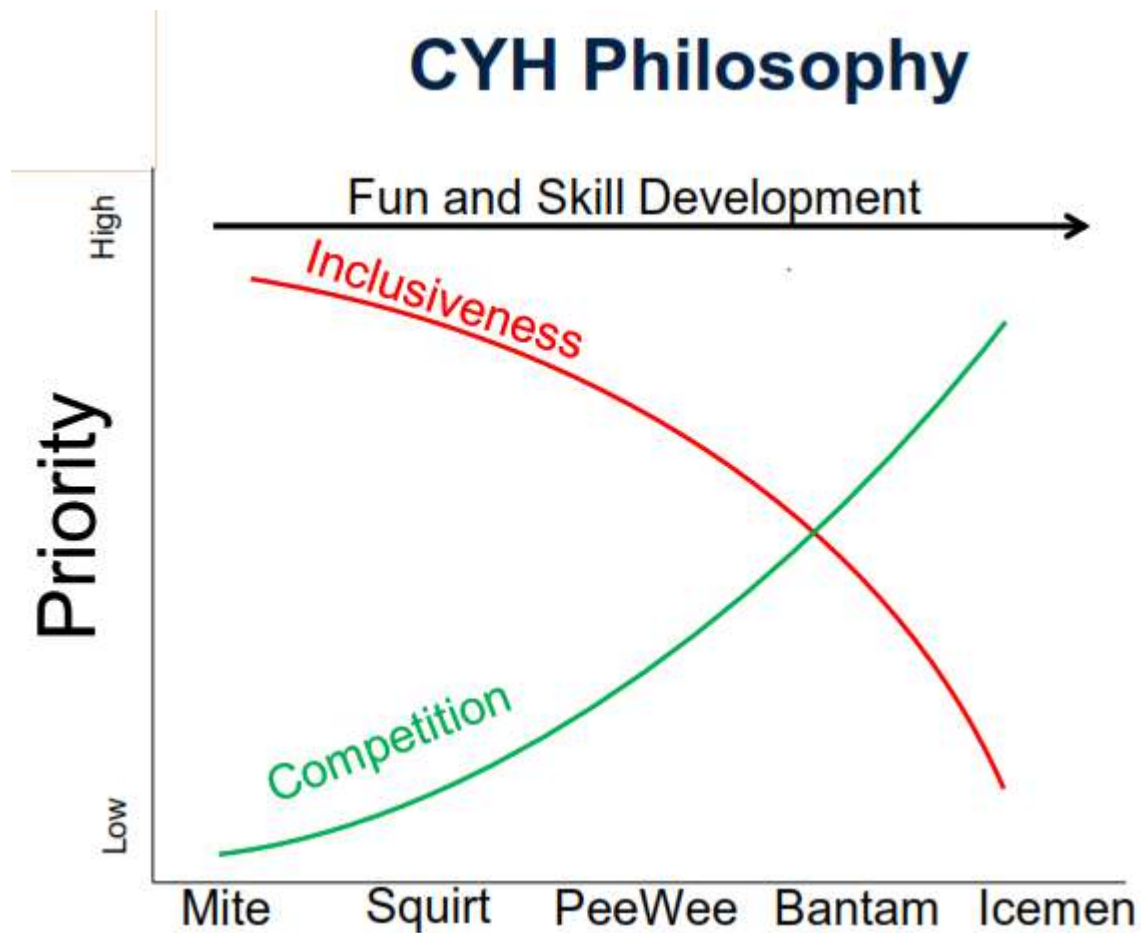
MISSION STATEMENT

To develop and maintain the skills necessary to compete at the various age appropriate levels in a fun, challenging atmosphere that fosters: growth, retention, sportsmanship, and fun.



PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

Fun and skill development are the focal points starting at 8U hockey. As the child progresses through the age spectrum from Mite through High School, competitiveness gradually increases, while inclusiveness generally decreases.



ATHLETE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM STATEMENT

During the 2020-2021 season, CYH Member Athletes had access during the hockey season to the CYH [Athlete Assistance Program \(AAP\)](#) at no cost. The [AAP](#) was created as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic to address the negative impacts associated with de-socialization and the de-structuring of our athlete's normal day to day routines - no in-person school, no lunch time with buddies, no recess, no structure - and its unknown impact on our young athletes.

CYH identified a need for our athletes to talk about the mental health challenges that athletes may be experiencing because of COVID-19 based on reports from CYH coaches about changes in athlete attitudes, effort, and behaviors.

The service was completely anonymous and an athlete could receive up to three (3) counseling sessions through the [AAP](#) to discuss the challenges that athletes were experiencing due to COVID-19.

CYH will collaborate with peer groups, discuss internally and study whether the AAP should live on past the 2020-2021 season.

2020-2021 FOCUS

Overview

- Improved Communications
- Aggressive Recruitment and Retention
- Partnership with Columbus Parks & Recreation
- Increased Membership Involvement
- Sportsmanship & Zero Tolerance
- Branding
- Alumni Involvement Initiatives
- Survey Points of Focus

• Improved Communications

- A goal of the Communications Committee this season was to increase CYH's social media presence organization wide. We realized as an organization that social media provides us the opportunity to connect, engage and communicate with our families and the community.
- CYH has been using both Instagram and Facebook platforms this season to communicate, inform, share team accomplishments and stats, advertise events, as well as just post fun hockey-related content- while increasing awareness of our organization and brand.
- Realizing that some teams were more social media savvy than others (based on the photos and information shared with the Committee), one plan of improvement is to encourage every team to assign a point person to share photos and stories with the Committee, so we can work towards equal amounts of coverage at all levels in the coming years.
- CYH leveraged strong relationships with The Republic to gain good old-fashioned print media coverage. 2021 saw the first front page newspaper story in recent memory, publishing the State Championship victories earned by 14U Bantams and the Columbus Icemen.

- Recruitment and Retention

- Eight (8) Travel Teams
- 9% increase in player participation this season over 2019-2020.
- 93% Retention Rate (factoring in people who moved out of state and/or country).
- 8U - 84 Players
- 10U - 46 Players
- 12U - 38 Players
- 14U - 33 Players
- High School - 21 Players



- Partnerships

- Fischer Hockey - Discounts on team stick order
- Acceleration Indiana - Discounts on hockey treadmill training for CYH Members
- Chipotle - Revenue generating fundraisers
- Kroger Rewards - Link your Kroger Card to CYH, then all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Shopper's Card. Any transactions moving forward using the Shopper's Card number associated with your digital account will be applied to the program, at no added cost to you. Kroger donates annually to CYH based on your percentage of spending as it relates to the total spending associated with all participating Kroger Community Rewards organizations.
- Amazon Smile - Through AmazonSmile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to CYH as a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization.
- HCCIA - CYH partnered with Hamilton Center Community Ice Arena to create dedicated street hockey rinks adjacent to the ice rink on the tennis courts. Many athletes for the first time experienced the joys, and challenges, of good old-fashioned street hockey.



SPORTSMANSHIP & ZERO TOLERANCE

Youth sports are a great opportunity for a child to build self-esteem and learn fundamental skills. It is also an opportunity for adults to become positive role models and to teach the value and importance of good sportsmanship. Our priority is development, not winning. Our club philosophy is long term player development, and again, winning is not the only goal. CYH wants you to enjoy the great game of hockey, and we are providing this information in an effort to assist you and your child in gaining a greater understanding of player development and the game of hockey.

Incidents involving aggressive and unacceptable behavior towards players, parents, coaches and referees has increased in recent years, leading CYH to adopt a ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY. This policy applies to all coaches, players, parents and other supporters and referees effective immediately. Drinking excessive alcohol, smoking (including vaping), or use of illegal substances is prohibited during CYH practices, games, or events. Abusive and obscene language, violent play, violent conduct, fighting, and other behavior (including but not limited to sarcasm, gesturing, taunting, etc.) will not be tolerated during any CYH event. Ultimate responsibility for the actions of coaches, players, parents and spectators resides with the CYH membership.

It is the responsibility of the CYH Members to provide referee support and positive spectator interactions. This policy applies at all times prior to, during, and after games, practices or other team events, at the hockey rink, team hotels and/or other facilities supporting or hosting events in which CYH membership is participating.

2020-2021 DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE SUMMARY

- No formal complaints filed against CYH as an organization or against any individual member.
- Committee developed a Match Penalty Review Process.
- CYH successfully reversed a match penalty decision through formal appeal process to Mid-Am Hockey by following documentary procedures developed by CYH. Committee received high praise from Mid-Am for its thorough and objective investigation and appeal process preparation.

BRANDING

2020-2021 Season Highlights included the addition of mandatory, branded pant covers to all player uniforms at 10U through High School levels.

Addition (optional) of custom, branded CYH player bags, coach's bags and hockey gloves.



ALUMNI INITIATIVES

Due to COVID-19, all Alumni Initiatives were suspended for 2020-2021. CYH is planning for a summer of 2021 Alumni Hockey Game to reconnect our Alumni to Columbus Youth Hockey and share our stories of success from the past season.

We anticipate making an executive appointment to the CYH Board for an Alumni Relations Director to serve as the coordinator for future alumni events, creating revenue opportunities for same, developing alumni branding initiatives, coaching recruitment, and Senior Project and/or volunteerism assistance and oversight.

MIDSEASON SURVEY

- Manager team communication rated as proper amount across all levels.
- Majority of families were satisfied with CYH's organizational communication.
- Parents overwhelmingly believed their kids were enjoying hockey.
 - 52 of 61 responses favorable as to level of enjoyment.
 - 42 of 61 responses favorable for handling of COVID-19¹.
- Parents rated coaching staffs as professional and appropriate.
- Majority of parents believed CYH had the right amount of games and practices for their respective team.
- Increased social media presence was helpful and appreciated.
- Branded equipment split in thirds (loved them, indifferent, specific feedback).
- Vast majority of parents believed teams played at an appropriate level of competition.

¹ Many unfavorable responses did not recognize the distinction and separateness of CYH versus HCCIA and who the ultimate policy-makers were relative to rink restrictions and enforcement.

AT LARGE APPOINTMENTS

CYH was very pleased to see a record turn-out in applications for the two (2) At-Large Member openings. The At-Large Members for the 2021-2022 season, based on recorded votes, are:

Matt Harris

David Jamerson

Join me in congratulating Matt and David and in welcoming them to the CYH Board.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

1. Fuel the Flame Planning Committee
2. Communication Committee
3. Team Management Roles
4. Game Support (Scorekeeping, music, penalty box, locker rooms)
5. Alumni Events
6. Golf Outing Fundraisers
7. Try Hockey for Free, and many others

Please send your inquiry to:

Columbusyouthhockeyboard@gmail.com

or stop a Board Member at the rink.

COVID-19 OVERVIEW

CYH was incredibly pleased with the ability of our travel teams to participate in an entire season of ice hockey this past year. It required constant communication with rink management, with our fellow hockey organizations, CYH Members, Mid Am Hockey, USA Hockey, Buckeye Travel Hockey League, and the newly formed Indiana Hockey League.

A great deal of hard work and effort went into forming a hockey league to address the suspension of activity by Buckeye and other surrounding hockey leagues (NIHL, Little Caesars, etc.). The board presidents from Bloomington, Columbus, Evansville, Dyer, Fort Wayne, Greenwood, Indianapolis and South Bend met routinely throughout the summer months with Mid Am Hockey to create, implement and manage a newly formed league in which our athletes could participate, in addition to also creating and managing the end of year Governor's Cup Tournament.

While there are many ways to define success, fairness or other game-based concepts, there is no dispute that Indiana was far more successful in managing its statewide hockey participation than its surrounding sister states of Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, and Kentucky. For that, we should all be thankful.

CYH incurred two (2) temporary, self-imposed team suspensions for COVID-19 exposures; one at the 12U level and one at the high school level. There were other individual player exposures managed by CYH when parents came forward with school-based exposures or other incidents that CYH was obligated to manage from an organizational standpoint. This was accomplished discreetly to respect Member privacy rights.

In conclusion, a particular "Thank you!" is warranted to our Director of Hockey Operations, Nick Mudd, and Isaac Coy, Coach/ACE Coordinator, both of whom were key in providing sound guidance to affected parents and dedicated a lot of extra time and effort to manage the challenges presented by COVID-19.

AWARDS



DARVIN APPEL-HOUSE LEAGUE COACH OF THE YEAR

The Columbus Youth Hockey House League Coach of the Year Award is given to a CYH volunteer who went above and beyond normal participation. This person is heavily involved in the CYH organization and is active in the growth and development of the CYH organization at the house league level.

- **2020-2021 Recipient is Matt Taylor**

HOUSE LEAGUE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

The House League Player of the Year Award is given to the participant who embraces the sport of hockey in House League in a positive, hardworking, and fun way.

- **2020-2021 Recipient is Leah Doig**

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The Columbus Youth Hockey Volunteer of the Year Award is given to a CYH volunteer who went above and beyond normal participation. This person is heavily involved in the CYH organization and is active in the growth and development of the CYH organization.

• 2020-2021 Recipient is Shawna Netser

Congratulations to Shawna for earning this achievement by taking lead on the 2020 Fuel the Flame Annual Fundraiser and organizing the event into an amazing success story despite all the challenges posed by COVID-19 restrictions.

Shawna was instrumental in working with Carleen Fry, HCCIA Manager, to determine safe ways to host the event. Shawna identified new food vendors which received high marks from members who purchased their products. Thank you for going above and beyond Shawna!

CHRIS HAHN MEMORIAL AWARD

Chris spent his formative years on the ice at Lincoln Center where he helped create many of the traditions which are on-going today. At an early age, Chris chose hockey as his sport and worked hard to capitalize on his abilities and maximize his skill level. Chris lived each moment to its fullest and took great pride in everything he did.

He loved people and the things he did whether he was on the ice, at home, at school, or among friends. Additionally, he listened and applied what he heard, not only to his game, but to his other life activities as well.

The initial Columbus record books were written by Chris and his brother Eric. One of the major highlights of his high school hockey years was the Icemen's second place win in the 1977 Indiana State High School Hockey Championships. Chris completed his hockey career as a four-year letterman for the Icemen graduating in 1978. While returning to Michigan State during his freshman year of college he was killed in an automobile accident.

Chris will always be remembered with a smile on his face, a warm spot in his heart and an ear to the world. The Chris Hahn Memorial Award is given annually to a Columbus Youth Hockey Team or Individual Player in his memory.

• 2020-2021 Recipient is Kaitlyn Buickel

Congratulations to Kaitlyn on her nomination and receipt of the Chris Hahn Memorial Award. Kaitlyn was a huge help this year in volunteering at house league practices, Learn to Play Hockey events, goalie training sessions on the small ice with Chuck Fry and as a member of the 14U Flames. Kaitlyn always has a smile on her face and a bounce in her step. She exudes confidence and warmth and makes the younger athletes around her feel welcome at the rink. She maintains a positive attitude during even the toughest of battles. She is a true pleasure to have in our program. Thanks for being the strong young woman that you are Kate, you are an outstanding example to your peers.

JIM HENDERSON AWARD

Jim Henderson was involved in Columbus Youth Hockey for many years, dating to the early 70's when his three sons Jim, John, and Jeff played in the CYH program. During Jim's tenure with CYH, he was President of the CYH Board and coached several teams. Under his leadership CYH grew substantially. Jim was instrumental in the original campaign in 1976 to enclose the rink, allowing for year-round programming. Jim also co-chaired the facility restoration project in 2014.

The Jim Henderson Award honors a CYH volunteer, who over the years, displays continuous long-term support of and commitment to CYH. In addition to, and even more important than tenure, the honoree must also embody Jim's passion for continued growth of the CYH program and development of its players through innovative thinking, strong leadership, hard work and respect.

• 2020-2021 Recipient is Isaac Coy

The Board does not make recommendations on this award every year. The reason for nominating Isaac was his unquestioned commitment to ice hockey in Columbus. He has come forth with many innovations that have made CYH a better organization, most notably his work with the coaching committee. He comes with meaningful ideas and a plan to implement those ideas in a successful manner. We are one of the only, if not the only, hockey organizations in our State that provides the kind of resources and support that we provide to our coaches. The library of drills is an awesome example of this innovation, especially great for our young/new coaches. This was Isaac's initiative. As the former CEO and corporate leader of Cummins, Mr. Henderson was keen on innovation and progressive ideas. Isaac has brought that philosophy to CYH thru his passion with the coaching committee, as well as his commitment to 8U and HS hockey (really all levels). Isaac puts in WAAAY more time than anyone else and does it with integrity and for the good of CYH. He will listen to positions outside of his own personal opinion and give them thoughtful consideration to reach the best outcome for CYH. Isaac has presented to various teams over the years about being good teammates, anti-bullying campaigns and other team growth concepts. Isaac has always found the time to help someone that asks for it. And he delivers a great product during those occasions to boot! Congratulations Isaac for this award, you truly deserve it.

TRAVEL TEAMS



8U-Blue
Record: 29-13-2

8U-Orange
Record: 15-6



10U-Smith
2021 10U Brickyard State Championship 2nd Place



10U-Larsh

Record: 40-16-6



12U-Kelley
Record: 8-29-1



12U-Eckart
Record: 24-21-2



dry on the
ice

14U-Nelson
Record: 17-20-3
2021 14U Brickyard State Champions



Icemen-Coy
Record: 20-16-2
ISHSHA 2A State Champions

UPCOMING EVENTS

Learn to Play Hockey

Saturdays, March 27 – April 17 | 4:15-5:15 p.m. | Ages 4-10 | \$5

Saturdays, May 22 – October 2* | 4:15-5:15 p.m. | Ages 4-10 | \$5

USA Hockey encourages a non-competitive environment in which children can learn the basic skills of hockey without distractions that are often associated with an over emphasis on winning. Mastery of the fundamental skills and the FUN of playing are essential to the development of lifelong interest in hockey. Please arrive 30 minutes early to get fitted for your equipment. **(Free equipment is available to use.)** **Some sessions may be cancelled due to special events.*

Peewee Skills Drop In Sessions (Flyer)

Join us on Tuesdays, June 1-July 27 from 7:45-8:45 p.m. for Peewee Skills Drop In Sessions. Cost is \$10 per session. This session will focus on advanced skills such as edgework, power skating, shooting mechanics, and stick handling. This session is open to both skaters and goalies for instruction based skill development.

Bantam & High School Drop In Skills Sessions (Flyer)

Join us on Tuesdays, June 1-July 27 from 9:00-10:00 p.m. for a Bantam & High School Drop In Skills Sessions. Cost is \$10 per session. This session will focus on advanced skills such as edgework, power skating, shooting mechanics, and stick handling. This session is open to both skaters and goalies for instruction based skill development.

Columbus Hockey Camp (Brochure)

Hockey players ages 6-12 can join us July 5-9 from 1-5 p.m. for our Columbus Hockey Camp coached by Miami University's Mike Norton! Experienced Mites, Squirts, and Peewees are welcome! We accept 36 skaters and 4 goalies. Cost is \$250 per player. Please call Hamilton Community Center and Ice Arena to register.

Web Registration: April 19 – July 1, 5 p.m.

In Person Registration: April 19 – July 1, 5 p.m.

Bantam/High School Hockey Camp (Brochure)

July 12 – 16 | \$300

Hosted by Coach Jack Manard, Head Coach and Hockey Director of Team Indiana and Head Coach for Indiana University Hockey. This program is designed for players to have fun while developing their skills in preparation for tryouts. Players will compete in a variety of scrimmage and game situations...not your typical tedious drills.

Web Registration: April 19 – July 10, 5 p.m.

Robby Glantz Hockey Camp (Flyer)

Robby Glantz hockey camp focuses on technique speed training, acceleration, and explosive starts! Training will include bungee cords and more! Come train with a skating coach of the NHL stars! Ice time is 6-7:45 p.m. on Monday, August 2nd and 9-10:15 a.m. on Tuesday August 3rd. This camp is limited to 40 participants. This camp is limited to travel hockey players only. [Follow this link to register online.](#)