

Information About Hockey Equipment

The Owatonna Park & Recreation and Owatonna Youth Hockey Association programs work together to promote the growth of hockey in Owatonna. One way is by offering an equipment rental program to its younger players. This program is available to the Park & Recreation players through the age of Squirts/10-U. The objective of this program is to introduce families to the game of hockey while keeping their costs affordable. Players who continue to participate past the Squirts/U10 level will need to furnish their own equipment. Jerseys are provided for each registered skater sometime during the first session of our hockey season. Generous business owners cover the cost of the jerseys for each Park & Recreation skater. If you or someone you know would like to be a jersey sponsor, please contact the Owatonna Park & Recreation office at 444-4321 or Tony Schwichtenberg at tony.schwichtenberg@gmail.com.

Equipment will be available to rent from OYHA during hockey on the dates below:

- Monday October 14th 5:00 – 6:00PM. Last names beginning A – M.
- Tuesday October 15th 5:00 – 6:00PM. Last names beginning N – Z.
- **Equipment Contact: Mark Spurgeon** 507-456-5949 marks@ultrapure.com

Cost of equipment rental program:

\$50 per season wear and tear charge. A deposit check will be required at time of rental also. The deposit check will not be cashed unless equipment is not returned to OYHA. A date will be set to turn in equipment at the end of the OYHA season. Arrangements can be made to rent equipment for summer and fall OYHA camps and clinics.

The bag of rental equipment includes:

- Helmet w/mask
- Shoulder pads
- Elbow pads
- Breezers
- Shin pads
- Gloves
- Equipment bag

The skaters will be responsible for supplying the following equipment:

- Skates (can be leased by the season at Straight River Sports & Fitness 222 W. Bridge St.)
- Mouth guard
- Neck guard
- Cup/pelvic protector
- Hockey socks

Some Helpful Information Regarding Equipment:

- Skates should fit now—snug, with the toes just barely touching the front of the boot. They should be laced to the top and tightened securely without cutting off circulation.
- Helmet, mask, and mouth guard—A helmet is required equipment for every person on the ice during all practices and games for the Park & Recreation and OYHA hockey programs.

- Mask must be securely attached to the helmet, and the helmet must fit snugly without being too tight. Make sure the mouth guard is fitted properly; follow the instructions on the package or consult a dentist for a professional fit—a mouth guard that fits to the upper or lower teeth will be comfortable and easy to wear, and will protect against concussion.
- Gloves—regular winter gloves are ok for starters, hockey gloves are recommended.
- Shin pads, elbow pads, cup or pelvic protector—valuable padding as players begin to play. Knee pads and a padded jacket are fine for learning to skate.
- Breezers (hockey pants) and socks—fun for players, but not essential for beginners; good protection for tailbone on falls, but until pucks get lifted, breezers aren't necessary until U6.

Recommendations for what equipment your child needs for each level

- Learn to Skate: Helmet, shin pads, hockey gloves or warm mittens, elbow pads, mouth guard.
- U6 and U8: Now that skaters are playing with pucks on a regular basis, full equipment is required.

Let's all have a great hockey season!

Tony Schwichtenberg
Park and Recreation Hockey Program Supervisor
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