

# Welcome



to the  
Kansas City Fighting Saints!

*Updated August 2022*

# Welcome to the Saints Family!

We're so glad you've chosen to join us. Hockey season is upon us and it's the best time of the year!

Some of you are veterans and know the "ins and outs" of what hockey life entails. Some of you are brand new and may feel a little overwhelmed with LOTS of questions! Fear not— we have all been in your shoes! Either way, this packet will be a resource to find all the information you need to know during this hockey season.

We put this document together to serve as a guide of helpful hints to help you navigate through this hockey season.

## Before the Season Begins

We encourage all of our parents to visit the Kansas City Youth Hockey Association's (KCYHA) website: [kcyouthhockey.com](http://kcyouthhockey.com) prior to the start of the season to familiarize yourself with the website. This is the place you will register your player, find game schedules, and view stats. You can find camps, clinics, tournaments, and other resources here as well.

Before the first practice, gather all necessary equipment. If this isn't your player's first season, make sure they try on their old gear and check the expiration date on their helmet to ensure they're ready to get safely on the ice when the time comes. If you have a new player, we'll outline the exact gear your player needs in a few pages.

As with most sports, hockey comes with a significant price tag. Most of the cost associated with hockey comes from the ice time required to practice and grow our players' skills. The Saints will try to schedule fundraisers throughout the season to offset as much of these costs as possible. Please be mindful of these and participate as much as possible.

We hope you find that we are a big family and we all have the same goal in mind . . . to see our players having fun, building confidence and friendships, and learning life lessons along the way to becoming skilled players on the ice. Again, welcome to the Saints family.

# Player Registration

You may have already registered your player(s) for the season, but if that is not the case here are the steps:

1. Go to [usahockey.com](http://usahockey.com) and become a member.  
To do this, visit the website, then hover your mouse above *Players & Parents* towards the top of the screen. Click on *Youth Hockey*, then find the red button for *Player Registration*. Follow the instructions given to register your player. **Note:** Register your player as playing in **Kansas, Midwest Amateur Hockey Association**, NOT Missouri. When the registration is complete, you'll receive a USA Hockey number. **Write this number down!** You'll need it for the next step.
2. Visit [kcyouthhockey.com](http://kcyouthhockey.com) and hover your mouse over the *Member Clubs* section at the top of the screen. Click on the *KC Saints* that appears in the drop-down list. Scroll down until you find the grey box with a link to register for the current season. Follow the instructions there to register your player(s) for the current hockey season with the Saints.

*If you have not already done so, we highly encourage you to purchase the extra insurance when registering your player(s). If they are hurt, you will be reimbursed for their time off regardless if it is one month or the rest of the season. Without this insurance your fees are still required to be paid in the full amount and will not be reimbursed!*

# Parent Pre-Season Preparation

In order for our organization to run smoothly, we rely on volunteers to help. We need at least one parent of each player to register as a volunteer with USA Hockey, KCYHA, and complete the SafeSport Training.

In order to volunteer, these are the steps that need to be followed:

1. Register with [USA Hockey](http://USA Hockey) at no cost under the ice manager/volunteer category.  
This for those not participating as a player, coach, or referee. This is mandatory if you will be in the locker room or have access to any player on or off the ice!
- Note:** If you wish to volunteer as a coach or referee, please reach out to our hockey director, Nick Turcotte, for assistance in obtaining the proper certifications.
2. Register as a volunteer/manager with the [KCYHA](http://KCYHA).
3. Complete the [SafeSport Training](http://SafeSport Training). If you have volunteered in the past, this needs to be refreshed every year.
4. You may be asked to complete a background screening. *Either the KCYHA Registrar or the Saints coaching director will ask you to do this if necessary.*

# Fighting Saints Leadership

## Board Members as of March 2022:

<b>President/KCYHA Advisory Board Member</b>	Jason Wood	Is the primary leader of the Fighting Saints organization & works in conjunction with the KCYHA. Directs and assists the Board of Directors on all priorities and primary goals. Handles SafeSport violations and runs board meetings.
<b>Vice President</b>	Jeremy Mische	Works in conjunction with the President on all organization matters. Steps in as Acting President in the event the President is absent.
<b>Treasurer</b>	Cody Williams	Is responsible for the financial matters and bookkeeping of the organization—accounts receivable and collection, tax return preparation. Handles other tasks and duties as needed.
<b>Sponsorships &amp; Fundraising</b>	Ryan Burgener	Is responsible for managing fundraising and scholarship programs for the organization. Coordinates with the Treasurer regarding fundraising budget and other tasks as needed.
<b>Learn to Play Coordinator</b>	Katherine Beaird	Coordinates the Learn to Play (LTP) Hockey Program and works in conjunction with the Hockey Director and coaches. Assists Administrator in organization events and coordinates team photos.
<b>Administrator</b>	Tiffany Mische	Takes minutes at board meetings. Handles emails and player registration. Manages accounts. Organizes events: ice breaker, <i>Try Hockey for Free</i> , photos, & end-of-the-season banquet. Manages team jerseys and jersey numbers.
<b>Director of Hockey</b>	Nick Turcotte	Directs the coaches. Handles coach certifications & reimbursements. Organizes the teams, players, rosters, & jersey numbers. Determines practice times. Organizes <i>Try Hockey for Free</i> and other on-ice events.

**Note:** Contact information for the members of the leadership team shown above can be found at [kcsaints.com](http://kcsaints.com).

## Find Us Online

**facebook**

[Kansas City Fighting Saints Hockey](#)



[kc\\_fightingsaints](#)

**You Tube**

[KCFighting Saints HC](#)



[kcsaints.com](#)



[Kansas City Youth Hockey Association](#)

## Important Locations

Line Creek Ice Arena  
**Kansas City Fighting Saints**

[5940 NW Waukomis Drive](#)  
[Kansas City, MO 64151](#)

Bode Ice Arena  
**Saint Joseph Griffons**

[2500 Southwest Parkway](#)  
[St. Joseph, MO 64503](#)

Kansas City Ice Center\*  
**Kansas City Stars**

[19900 Johnson Drive](#)  
[Shawnee, KS 66218](#)

Cable Dahlmer Arena\*\*

**Kansas City Jr. Mavericks**

[19100 E Valley View Parkway](#)  
[Independence, MO 64055](#)

Carriage Club\*\*\*

**Carriage Club**

[5301 State Line Road](#)  
[Kansas City, MO 64112](#)

\*Games scheduled at Kansas City Ice Center will appear on Sports Engine as KCIC Main or KCIC Pavillion.

[KCIC Pavillion is an outside rink!](#)

\*\*Games scheduled at the Cable Dahlmer Arena will be shown as Independence Bowl or Independence Community on SportsEngine.

\*\*\*[Carriage Club is an outdoor rink!](#)



# Equipment Guide

You probably already know hockey requires the right equipment for comfort, performance, safety, and fun. New-to-hockey parents might be a little intimidated by the gear their child needs to wear. What is all this stuff and how does it go on? Let us help! We've included some links to helpful guides on fitting equipment. These are great for ensuring you order the right size for your player if you do your shopping online. Another great resource is the team at [Bar Down, our local hockey shop](#). They can help you pick the right equipment for your player.

## Base Layer

This can be a long or short sleeved shirt, likely made of a moisture-wicking material, and a jock or jill. Some players prefer the pants version of the jock/jill that contains a cup and velcro flaps for hockey sock attachment. Some prefer the shorts version. It's all about comfort, protection, and preference.

## Shin Pads

[Make sure these are the right size for your player](#) for maximum protection. Remember, your player will be playing ice hockey and will likely take a puck to some part of their body eventually. We want them to be safe.

## Hockey Socks

These socks are more like tubes that are put on with the wider end at the top and the narrower end at the ankle. Hold these up by the velcro flaps on the base layer or by wrapping a few loops of clear shin pad hockey tape.

## NEWTOHOCKEY.COM FULL EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST FOR KIDS



READ THE DESCRIPTION FOR MORE DETAILS ABOUT EACH PIECE OF EQUIPMENT

## Hockey Pants/

### Breezers

Whatever you refer to them as, just [make sure they fit your player](#) and slide them on next.

### Skates

A [good fit](#) is the most important factor when picking skates. Skates are typically 1-2 sizes smaller than the player's shoe size. Make sure the blades are sharp, too! Blades get dull and need to be sharpened every-so-often. You'll know it's time for sharpening when you can glide the top of your fingernail over the edge and the blade doesn't scrape the nail. Line Creek offers this service for a nominal fee.

### Shoulder Pads, Elbow Pads, & Jersey

Protect the arms and torso with some [shoulder pads](#) and [elbow pads](#). Then, slide a jersey over the top!

### Neck Guard

A neck guard is a simple piece of equipment that wraps around the neck to protect it from a potential encounter with a skate blade.

### Helmet

We advise to ALWAYS purchase your helmet new! This is the most important piece of equipment you'll put on your player, so be sure it is [comfortable and fits right](#).

### Gloves

[Select a glove that is comfortable, and offers the right balance of fit, mobility, and protection for your player.](#)

### Stick

Sticks can be overwhelming! Material, flex, curve, lie? So many options to choose from! Take a look at [this guide](#) and narrow down what your player is looking for and what you're willing to spend. Make sure the stick you choose is the right length and angled the right direction for your player.

### Helpful Extra Items to Throw in the

#### Hockey Bag

- A rag to dry your skates and prevent rust.
- Skate guards will protect your blades and other equipment.
- A helmet fix-it kit for when screws and straps go missing. Your player will not be allowed to take the ice without the repairs.
- Hockey tape. [This is used at the butt-end of the stick and along the blade.](#)
- Water bottle with a long straw!

### Tips for Equipment

- A great way for your child to get used to dressing and moving in the bulky equipment is to practice dressing at home.
- Have your child learn to dress themselves. Having mom or dad's help is important to ensure that the equipment gets put on properly when they start playing, but the day will soon come when it is their turn to do it alone.
- Pack a pair of socks and t-shirt in their hockey bag for after practice or a game. Who wants to wear sweaty, stinky clothes all the way home?
- Have a spot to lay out gear or build a [hockey drying rack](#) for wet equipment. This is a good habit to get your player into when they are young and it will prolong the life of their gear. It definitely helps cut down on the stink, too!
- Buy stick tape in bulk rolls.
- The players love after-game snacks. The best way to end a game is by sharing a snack!



## 2021-2022 Communication/Discipline Policy

Clear, concise and efficient communication is key to the success of any organization and team. Our goal is to streamline and clarify your questions throughout the year in a timely and efficient manner.

**Hockey Related Organizational Communication** will come from the President of the Fighting Saints Board. Anything related to overall organizational messages including events and programming.

**Individual Growth and Development** of your player is the most important aspect of your experience with the Saints organization. Throughout the season, questions about future plans, pathways, current development and goals of your individual player will arise.

All players/families have access to our Director of Hockey Nick Turcotte to help answer those questions. The contact is [kcfsgeneral@gmail.com](mailto:kcfsgeneral@gmail.com)

**Team/Individual Issues** - It is our desire to encourage quick and immediate conflict resolution through communication between the affected parties, or through a clear and documented conflict resolution process. We ask that every attempt be made to resolve issues prior to asking the organization for a Unified Disciplinary Hearing.

A conflict or issue may arise between two players, two parents, a player and coach, a coach and parent, a parent and player, etc. We expect that most conflicts can be resolved between the two parties through the normal course of working together through face to face communication and/or email. In all cases of conflict resolution, it is very important that face to face communications are documented with the details of the meeting including participants, date, time, conflict description, and details of the meeting outcome (regardless of whether a resolution was attained). Any email exchanges should be saved. A video of any conflict should be saved. All of this will be needed to determine the need for a Unified Disciplinary Hearing.

If a conflict resolution cannot be reached between the two parties, the complainant party may then request a hearing through the Fighting Saints Discipline Committee using the Disciplinary Committee as outlined below. The Committee shall have no personal interest in the outcome of such a hearing, and will be responsible to hear both sides as impartial arbitrators. The Committee is required to follow and uphold the Unified Disciplinary Hearing Procedure as outlined below.

A disciplinary hearing request must be submitted in writing, along with all supporting documentation to:

Discipline Committee Board Member:

President: Shawn Vecellio

Director of Hockey: Nick Turcotte [nthockeyfactory@gmail.com](mailto:nthockeyfactory@gmail.com)

General Administration: [kcfsgeneral@gmail.com](mailto:kcfsgeneral@gmail.com)



The Discipline Committee may decline a hearing request on the basis of insufficient evidence or may feel there is opportunity to resolve the conflict without a hearing. If a hearing is deemed appropriate based on the evidence provided, the Unified Hearing Procedure will then take effect.

The Disciplinary Committee will consist of 3 individuals without any personal friendship or connection to either party, or is otherwise involved directly or indirectly with either party, an alternate from the Board of Directors will attend in their place. On occasion, if needed, an alternate may be designated from outside the BOD to sit on the committee as an impartial arbitrator.

**Purpose:** The Discipline Committee has the responsibility for making parents, coaches and players accountable for their actions and to impose disciplinary actions when deemed necessary and appropriate.

**Procedure:** The Discipline Committee will consider any complaint or take action deemed necessary (Attachment 1) due to the conduct of an individual if the following procedure is followed:

**Step 1 – 48 hour cooling off period** before contacting the Head Coach unless an emergency of immediate danger to the player or parent.

**Step 2** - The parties involved in the dispute must have a face-to-face meeting.

**Step 3** - If still unresolved, the problem shall be brought to the Disciplinary/Grievance Committee. The D/G Committee will hear the grievance and issue decisions within 14 days.

**Step 4** - The Board of Directors shall consider any appeal of a decision of the Discipline Committee and shall make a final decision regarding the decision of the Discipline Committee. The President or designee shall advise the appealing party of the Board decision and shall send a copy of the decision.

The Disciplinary/Grievance Committee will not entertain any complaint from a parent, player or coach unless Step 2 above has been completed.

Board members should refrain from any involvement until the grievance is brought to the board following completion of the established procedures.

Parent/Coach cool off period. It is mandatory that there be a 48 hour “cool-off” period be observed by the upset party before any grievance is brought to the coach and or Discipline Committee Board Member/Director of Hockey. All parents and guardians will be required to sign a form indicating that they have read and understand the above policy before their player will be allowed to play in any Fighting Saints Hockey sponsored games.

SPORTSMANSHIP - THE PRIMARY AIM IS TO DEVELOP HOCKEY PLAYERS. First is skill development where players learn the basic skills of skating, shooting, and puck handling. Equally important is the development of attitude. Hockey is a team sport and we want our players to learn how to play with others. An understanding of the basic concepts of team play or strategy is essential. We also feel strongly that players should learn respect. A respect for coaches, referees, teammates, and opponents, is basic to any competition. Sportsmanship needs to be the cornerstone of any constructive youth program. It is the intention of the Board of Directors to adopt a policy of behavior governing all players, coaches, and fans. The policy is intended to be in keeping with the above-mentioned philosophy.

\*Please ensure that all group chats remain positive and supportive of the team and program. Any negative messaging about the organization, team, other members etc. should be reported directly to the Director of Hockey. Negative messaging by individuals will be subject to discipline and possible removal.

**PLAYERS' CREED**

We live clean and play hard.

We play for the love of the Game.

We win without boasting, we lose without excuses, and we never quit.

We respect officials and accept their decisions without question.

We never forget that we represent our community.

We understand that sportsmanship is a part of being a competitor.

**COACHES' CREED**

We inspire in our player a love for the game and the desire to do their best.

We promote the philosophy that to do your best is to win.

We teach our players that it is better to lose fairly than to win unfairly.

We lead players and spectators to respect officials by setting a good example.

We coach the game of hockey and guide our players to be better people.

**PARENTS' CREED**

We support and encourage every child.

We support our child's coach and appreciate his/her efforts on our child's behalf.

We understand that Fighting Saints hockey program is designed to benefit all the participants and we do our best to work on its behalf.

We never forget that we represent our community wherever we go.

**SPECTATORS' CREED**

We never verbally abuse a player or official.

We appreciate a good play, no matter who makes it.

We know we represent the Fighting Saints Hockey program by our conduct.

We support the decisions of coaches and referees.

We recognize the need for more sportsmen and few "sports".

**FOLLOWING IS A NONEXCLUSIVE LIST OF GUIDELINES:**

<b>ARENA</b> • Foul language will not be tolerated • Standing by glass in front of bleachers is not allowed • Use of handicap platform by persons without disabilities will not be allowed • Inappropriate behavior of fans in stands will not be permitted; Violators will be asked to leave the arena.	<b>CONSEQUENCES</b> Any offenses committed at the arena will be dealt with by the arena manager/staff
<b>COACHES</b> • Positive reinforcement for each player • Treat officials and players with respect • No foul language • No demeaning language or actions towards players • Follow FSH, USA Hockey guidelines and high school policies	<b>1st Offense</b> – warning by Coaching Director <b>2nd Offense</b> – goes to Coaching Director and D/G Committee; probation or possible suspension <b>3rd Offense</b> – goes to Board of Director – suspension from coaching until disciplinary meeting is held.
<b>PLAYERS</b> • Do not discredit your teammates • No foul language • Abide by team and FSH rules • Respect your coaches and teammates • Show respect for your opponents	Following is a nonexclusive list of possible offenses. Consequences will be determined solely at the discretion of the coach! • Intentionally failing to shake hands after game • Intentionally breaking a stick on the ice or hitting the boards/glass with stick • Yelling obscenities/using obscene gestures to officials, other players, fans, or coaches • Abusing arena or locker room • Unnecessary roughness or retaliation during a game • Discrediting a teammate • Absence from practice without notification or permission • Inappropriate locker room behavior or fighting. Loss of playing time may be used as a disciplinary measure at any age level.
<b>PARENTS</b> • Let the Coach do the coaching • No foul language • Set an example for your child and FSH • Support your child as well as his/her teammates • Remember that you represent FSH in town and out of town.	<b>1st offense</b> – warning by coach & (1) board designated representative <b>2nd offense</b> – D/G Committee Action

**Guidelines are to be read at home and at Player and Parent Meetings at the beginning of the season.**

