



LANCASTER FIREBIRDS

Travel Hockey
Brochure
2024-25 Season





General Information

Lancaster County Youth Amateur Hockey League (LCY AHL)

The Lancaster Firebirds and Lancaster Ice Rink are owned and operated by the Lancaster County Youth Amateur Hockey League (LCY AHL) which is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The LCY AHL mission is to "...provide a safe and challenging environment that promotes skill enhancement, teamwork, and sportsmanship for competitive youth hockey." Formed in 1971, the LCY AHL is one of only a handful of non-profit organizations in the entire country that owns and operates both an ice rink and youth hockey club for the sole benefit of the local community.

USA Hockey

USA Hockey is the national governing body for ice hockey in the United States. The Lancaster Firebirds are a member of USA Hockey through its affiliate the Atlantic Amateur Hockey Association (AAHA). The club adheres to all USA Hockey regulations, policies, and procedures. The Lancaster Firebirds player development program follows USA Hockey's American Development Model (ADM) guidelines.

Atlantic Hockey Federation

The Atlantic Hockey Federation ("AHF") is a USA Hockey Sanctioned Elite Tier-II Youth Hockey League that facilitates games throughout the Mid-Atlantic while trying to lower costs for its club members and families. The AHF has over 250 teams in the league providing high quality competition at every age group and level.





Player Development Program

Team Development Packages

Tyke-6U (Birth Year 2018 or later)

- 24 bi-weekly 60-minute skill-development practices
- Independent Schedule (opponents tbd)
 - 16 games
- 8 total home game slots
- No Charge Public Skate Sessions

MITE-8U - Half Ice (Birth Year 2016/2017)

- 24 bi-weekly 60-minute skill-development practices
- Full AHF Schedule
 - 24 games - including one showcase
- 10 total home game slots
- No Charge Public Skate Sessions

MITE-8U - Full Ice (Birth Year 2016/2017)

- 24 bi-weekly 60-minute skill-development practices
- Pre-season Weekend Training Camp (3 hours on-ice) under direction of team coaching staff
- Full AHF Schedule
 - 36 games - including 2 showcases
- 10 total home game slots
- No Charge Public Skate Sessions

SQUIRT-10U (Birth Year 2014/2015)

- 28 bi-weekly 60-minute skill-development practices
- Pre-season Weekend Training Camp (3 hours on-ice) under direction of team coaching staff
- Full AHF Schedule
 - 36 games - including 2 showcases
- 14 total home game slots
- No Charge Public Skate Sessions





PEEWEE-12U (Birth Year 2012/2013)

- 28 bi-weekly 60-minute skill-development practices
- Minimum of 30 minutes full-ice two weeks out of every three
- Pre-season Weekend Training Camp (3 hours on-ice) under direction of team coaching staff
- Full AHF Schedule
 - 36 games - including 2 showcases
- 14 total home game slots
- No Charge Public Skate Sessions

BANTAM-14U (Birth Year 2010/2011)

- 28 bi-weekly 60-minute skill-development practices
- Minimum of 30 minutes full-ice two weeks out of every three
- Pre-season Weekend Training Camp (3 hours on-ice) under direction of team coaching staff
- Full AHF Schedule
 - 36 games - including 2 showcases
- 14 total home game slots
- No Charge Public Skate Sessions
- Game coverage by Certified Athletic Trainer
- No Charge Public Skate Sessions

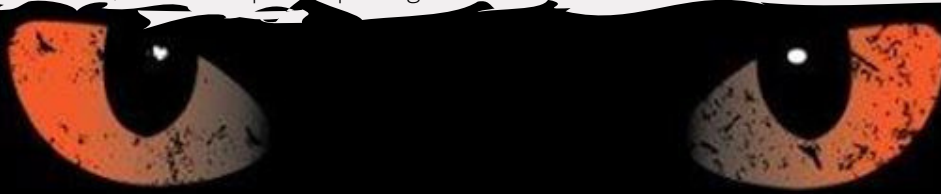
MIDGET-16U (Birth Year 2008/2009)

- 28 bi-weekly 60-minute skill-development practices
- Minimum of 30 minutes full-ice two weeks out of every three
- Pre-season Weekend Training Camp (3 hours on-ice) under direction of team coaching staff
- Full AHF Schedule
 - 36 games - including 2 showcases
- 14 total home game slots
- No Charge Public Skate Sessions
- Game coverage by Certified Athletic Trainer

MIDGET-18U (Birth Year 2006/2007)*

- Bi-weekly 60-minute skill/team play-development practices (August-October)
- Weekly 60-minute skill/team play-development practices (November-February)
- Minimum of 60 minutes full-ice practice every week (August-October)
- Pre-season Weekend Training Camp (3 hours on-ice) under direction of team coaching staff
- Full AHF Schedule
 - 36 games - including 2 showcases
- 14 total home game slots
- Game coverage by Certified Athletic Trainer
- No Charge Public Skate Sessions

*If there is an 18U-AA team, the development package and cost will be the same as 16U.





Weekly Professional Coaching

The Lancaster Firebirds Hockey Director and Pro Coach, Chris Campanale will be on ice with each team on a weekly basis. He will work directly with coaches to determine the best drills and systems for each practice.

Goaltending Development

In season, there will be 12 (60) minute goaltender training sessions every other week under the direction of a professional goaltending coach Ben Halford and Accelerate Goaltending. Goaltender training sessions will be broken up into two groups according to age and number of goaltenders.

Registration, Evaluation, and Team Selection

Registration

Players must register on-line at www.lancastericerink.org prior to the first evaluation session. As part of that process players will require a valid USA Hockey registration number. Players who have not registered with the Lancaster Firebirds will not be allowed on the ice for evaluations.

Player Selection Process

Selections shall be based on activities at official LCY AHL evaluation sessions. Practices arranged and/or conducted by LCY AHL appointed coaches, assistant coaches or other personnel prior to official LCY AHL evaluations will have no bearing on the outcome of evaluations. Each player will be evaluated during evaluations while performing basic and/or advanced hockey skills and/or scrimmages against their peers. Previous season's coaches from each level should be available to assist in the evaluation and selection process. Coaches must meet with the LCY AHL Hockey Director during the evaluations to review their observations, analysis and assessment of players.

A committee comprised of the LCY AHL coaching staff, Hockey Director and at least one non parent evaluator will determine which players will make which team. Sensitivity, respect and consideration to the self-image of the players should be foremost. During evaluations, no players are to be waived or released on the ice surface, under any circumstance, in any division, except where the safety of the player is compromised or disciplinary conditions exists. Player selection and assignments shall be done with the utmost dispatch. No current or former member of the LCY AHL are permitted to make promises with players/parents/guardians in order to secure their commitment to a LCY AHL team.





Selection Standards

Selection to a LCYAHL team is a privilege, not a right, and will be based upon skill, experience, attitude and conduct. Skaters will be evaluated on all four blade edges, their forward stride, backward stride, transition skating, puck handling, passing and receiving, shooting and scoring ability, aggressiveness, team play and physical play. Goalies will be evaluated on their balance and movement, agility and quickness, angles and positions, save selection, anticipation, aggressiveness, concentration, athleticism and resiliency. No player is guaranteed a position on a team because he/she played on a LCYAHL team during a prior season. Prior participation on a LCYAHL team may be considered when other evaluative factors are equal. Player or parental conduct inconsistent with the LCYAHL Policies and Procedures during a past season may be taken into consideration in making player selections. The committee will make player selections for the best interest of the team and the individual player including potential assignment to our recreation team.

Evaluation sessions will be held for each age level according to the schedule below. Additional evaluation sessions will be announced at the last scheduled evaluation and posted on the Lancaster Firebirds website. Players will be told if they need to participate in the extra evaluation session. There is a non-refundable \$100 evaluation fee that is **NOT** included in tuition. The evaluation fee will be charged at the time of registration.

Please note - 6U/8U/10U/12U - Once your player steps on the ice for their first evaluation session they are agreeing to play exclusively for the Lancaster Firebirds (LCYAHL) for the 2024-25 season in accordance with AAHA Rules and Regulations. Should the LCYAHL not place your player on a team, a release will be granted.

	2024-25 Firebirds Tryout/Evaluation Schedule		
	Evaluation 1	Evaluation 2	Evaluation 3
Tyke 6U/Mite 8U	Wed 3/27 5:30p - 6:30p	Thur 3/28 5:30p - 6:30p	
Squirt 10U	Tues 3/26 5:30p - 6:30p	Thurs 3/28 6:45p - 7:45p	Tues 4/2 5:30p - 6:30p
Peewee 12U	Tues 3/26 6:45p - 7:45p	Wed 3/27 6:45p - 7:45p	Tues 4/2 6:45p - 7:45p
Bantam 14U	Mon 4/15 6:15p - 7:15p	Wed 4/17 5:30p - 6:30p	Mon 4/22 6:15p - 7:15p
Midget 16U	Mon 4/15 7:30 - 8:30p	Wed 4/17 6:45p - 7:45p	Mon 4/22 7:30p - 8:30p
Midget 18U	Tues 4/16 6:00p - 7:00p	Thurs 4/18 6:45p - 7:45p	





14U/16U/18U Player Contract Process

In order for any player within these ages to be eligible for evaluation they must complete an online registration form as well as pay the \$100 evaluation fee. Upon completion of each evaluation session, contracts to appropriate teams will be offered based on performances at each of the evaluation sessions. Upon the completion of the final evaluation session, all contracts available will be offered to those players who are placed on each team. The contract link will also include how to pay your player's tuition or set up a payment plan.

Evaluation Fee

A non-refundable \$100 evaluation fee (NOT included in tuition) will be charged at the time of registration.

Apparel

All Lancaster Firebirds players are required to have the following apparel which is NOT included in the player tuition fee. Apparel samples for sizing and ordering instructions will be available at evaluations. The Firebirds dress code will be determined on a team by team basis.

- 3 Game Jerseys (Home/Away/Third)
- Black Hockey Pants
- Black Helmets
- Practice Jersey
- Warm-up Suit (Jacket/Pants) *Optional
- Hockey Socks - Home/Away/Third/Practice

Payment Options

- Pay in Full – Full tuition payment is due immediately following your player's first evaluation session (6U/8U/10U/12U). For 14U/16U/18U the first payment is due within 24 hours of acceptance of team placement. A link will be sent out for you to pay tuition via TeamSnap.
- Payment Plan – The first of six equal payments (amount outlined in table below) is due immediately following your player's first evaluation session (6U/8U/10U/12U). For 14U/16U/18U the first payment is due within 24 hours of acceptance of team placement. The remaining five payments will be debited on a monthly basis following the first payment on the 30th of each month. A link will be sent with the contract offer for you to set up tuition payments via TeamSnap.





Release/Refund Policy

Releases are considered by the hockey director only in cases where the player's entire tuition fee (NOT including discounts) has been paid in full. Refunds of player tuition are not granted for any reason. Releases will automatically be denied and referred to AAHA to determine outcome.

No Pay – No Play Policy

All accounts must be current for players to participate in the Lancaster Firebirds travel hockey program. Players with accounts in arrears may be subject to suspension at the discretion of the LCY AHL Board of Directors. Delinquent accounts at the end of the season will be referred to the AHF and AAHA which may result in the player being placed on the USA Hockey "Player Debt List" which may preclude the player from participating in any AAHA sanctioned hockey program, including scholastic hockey during the following year.

Financial Hardship Assistance - Chad Neiss II Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Chad Neiss II Memorial Scholarship Fund has been set up to honor Chad Neiss II ("Bomber") who played hockey for the Lancaster Firebirds from 1999 through 2013. The fund provides financial assistance to children in need, so they can play youth hockey for the Firebirds and enjoy the game that Chad loved so much.

To be considered for financial assistance or a change in payment terms, you must complete and **[submit an application](#)** by March 15th, 2024. Scholarships will be awarded by March 20th, 2024.





Tuition Schedule and Financial Information

24-25 Tuition

	Tuition	Full	Payment Plan	2 Players Full	2 Players Payment Plan	3 Players Full	3 Players Payment Plan
6U	\$ 975.00	\$ 955.50	\$ 162.50	\$ 859.95	\$ 146.25	\$ 764.40	\$ 130.00
8U	\$1,000.00	\$ 980.00	\$ 166.67	\$ 882.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 784.00	\$ 133.33
8U FI	\$1,895.00	\$1,857.10	\$ 315.83	\$ 1,671.39	\$ 284.25	\$1,485.68	\$ 252.67
10U	\$2,235.00	\$2,190.30	\$ 372.50	\$ 1,971.27	\$ 335.25	\$1,752.24	\$ 298.00
12U	\$2,375.00	\$2,327.50	\$ 395.83	\$ 2,094.75	\$ 356.25	\$1,862.00	\$ 316.67
14U	\$2,450.00	\$2,401.00	\$ 408.33	\$ 2,160.90	\$ 367.50	\$1,920.80	\$ 326.67
16U	\$2,600.00	\$2,548.00	\$ 433.33	\$ 2,293.20	\$ 390.00	\$2,038.40	\$ 346.67
18U	\$2,325.00	\$2,278.50	\$ 387.50	\$ 2,050.65	\$ 348.75	\$1,822.80	\$ 310.00

*If there is an 18U-AA team, the development package and cost will be the same as 16U.

Discounts

- **Full Pay** – A full pay discount of 2% is applied to the Tuition Fee when the balance due is paid at registration (the actual charge to credit card occurs on the day after the first evaluation).
- **Family Discount (two players)** – A 10% discount will be applied to the Tuition Fee of each player. The discount amount will be refunded automatically.
- **Family Discount (three or more players)** – A 20% discount will be applied to the Tuition Fee of each player. The discount amount will be refunded automatically.
- **Goalie** – A 25% discount will be applied to the Tuition Fee. Other discounts **DO NOT** apply to goalies. Goalie discount is available for full-time goalies ONLY. The goalie discount is available to goalies at the Peewee (12U) level and older. Potential goalie discounts at the Squirt (10) level will be considered on an individual basis and must be discussed with the Hockey Director. All Squirt (10U) goalies must register as skaters. Any goalie discount at the Squirt (10U) level will be applied after team selection.

