



# SUN PRAIRIE YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

## 2023-24 SEASON REGISTRATION

### INFORMATION – ALL LEVELS

Welcome to the 2023-24 season information packet! Please review all information in this packet. Only high-level topics are covered in this information packet. Please refer to the [SPYHA Policy Manual](#) for further details.

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Many times, the answers to your questions can be found on our website at [www.spyha.com](http://www.spyha.com), including contact information for the SPYHA Board of Directors and coaches, or in the [SPYHA Policy Manual](#). E-mail tends to work well as this is a volunteer-run organization and have regular jobs in addition to our SPYHA activities.

Please use the Executive Committee email address for private matters: [ecomm@spyha.com](mailto:ecomm@spyha.com).

## SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION – ALL LEVELS

### REGISTRATION

#### USA HOCKEY REGISTRATION

The first step in the SPYHA registration process is registration with USA Hockey (our governing body), which must be completed online by a parent/guardian **for each player** at [www.usahockey.com](http://www.usahockey.com). Each skater's USA Hockey

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number will be required for SPYHA registration. There is a fee for this registration for skaters over six years old. Registration is required for players under six as well, though there is no charge for their registration. To register, go to [www.usahockey.com](http://www.usahockey.com) and click on Become a Member in the upper right.

### SPYHA Registration

After completing the USA Hockey registration, go to [www.SPYHA.com](http://www.SPYHA.com). You will need to log in to begin the registration process. If you do not have a login, click Sign In at the top of the home page and follow the prompts.

After logging in, click on the "Registration" link to begin the registration process. Follow the prompts.

### Late Registration

Any travel player who registers after the registration deadline is not guaranteed a roster spot. Refer to the [SPYHA Policy Manual](#) for additional information and special situations, including 18U players who have already graduated from high school.

## SPYHA INVOICING AND PAYMENTS

After your online registration has been completed, and before the first tryout or skating session, SPYHA will send an invoice to the parents of the player(s) for the on-ice dues, the mandatory capital fund donation, the scholarship fund donation, and the mandatory annual fundraising items.

There are several payment options. Payment may be made in full upon receipt of the invoice, split between two payments or you may request to be approved for a monthly installment plan. This plan requires board review and an approved Payment Agreement. Families not in good financial standing with SPYHA may not be approved for a payment plan. If you would like to be considered for a payment plan, please select the check box during registration and you will be contacted by a board member for further information. Terms are as follows:

1. All members approved for payment terms must sign a payment agreement which binds them to the terms of the agreement. Under no circumstances will the payment terms extend beyond January 1, 2024.
2. Payments must be made on time per the Agreement. If the terms of the Payment Agreement are not met, late fees will be assessed, or the player may not be allowed to practice or participate in SPYHA-sanctioned events until payment is made. SPYHA reserves the right to initiate legal proceeding against members that fail to meet their financial obligations in a timely manner. Additional information is available in the [SPYHA Policy Manual](#).

Regardless of the plan selected, **the first payment must be made before your player can take the ice** (along with any remaining dues or unfulfilled volunteer payments from the previous season) at the first session of evaluations. There will be no exceptions to this policy without prior Board approval.

\*\*\*Beginning this season there will be a 4% surcharge for all credit card dues and raffle ticket payments. Checks are the preferred method of payment.

## VOLUNTEERING

Each family is expected to fulfill volunteer requirements over the course of a year or pay an amount to cover an average 'value' that these hours represent. The concession stand is critical to the financial success of SPYHA - it is the most effective way to control expenses which otherwise would need to be passed on to families in the form of dues increases.

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Volunteer hours are per family. For families with multiple players in SPYHA, the necessary credits are determined by the highest number of volunteer credits required. For example, if you have two players participating and one is in Mites and the other is on a travel team, the family requirement is 40 total hours (the amount corresponding to the travel team player).

Volunteer credit hours for trade or professional skills (plumbing, electrician, engineering etc.) will be credited on a case-by-case basis and must be preapproved by the Board.

Please remember that these are the minimum hours required for each family. Our association thrives on the hard work of our members. When possible, your volunteer time above and beyond these minimums are greatly appreciated and help keep the costs to play hockey down for all families.

Check the [Volunteering section of the SPYHA website](#) for more information, including volunteer opportunities.

### Volunteer Hours Requirement Levels

Mini-Mite 2 <sup>nd</sup> session only	2.5 volunteer hours
Mini-Mite	5 volunteer hours
Mite	15 volunteer hours
Travel Teams	40 volunteer hours

## MONETARY CONSIDERATION FOR VOLUNTEERISM (BUY-OUT)

The volunteer calendar runs from April 1 through March 31 corresponding with each hockey season. The buyout value is determined by the highest player level for a family (e.g., a family with a Squirt player and an ADM player would buyout at the travel rate). Families may choose to buyout for their concession stand hours only, their regular volunteer hours, or both. Buyout payments must be received by the indicated payment due date. Payments should be accompanied by a Volunteer Hours Buyout form so that payment is appropriately applied.

### Volunteer Hours Buyout (due Dec 31, 2023)

Level	Total
Mini-Mites 2 <sup>nd</sup> session only	\$50
Mini-Mites	\$100
Mites	\$300
Travel	\$800

\*Volunteer hours are \$20/credit. Once the buyout decision and payment have been made, it will not be refunded, and no money will be refunded for subsequent volunteer time.

## SECTION 2: LOANER EQUIPMENT FOR MINI-MITES AND MITES

### EQUIPMENT

SPYHA will make equipment available for Mini-Mite and Mite program participants on a loaner basis from SPYHA for return at season's end. Equipment provided by SPYHA in this program, available on a first-come, first-served basis, includes:

- Helmet with face protection
- Shoulder Pads

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- Shin Pads
- Elbow Pads
- Gloves
- Pants / Breezers
- Jerseys (Mini-Mites may keep their jerseys at season end, but Mites must return them)

Equipment NOT included:

- Skates - required
- Stick – required
- Cup or pelvic protector – recommended
- Mouth guard – recommended
- Socks – recommended

Dates for equipment checkout at the SPYHA equipment room (in the Sun Prairie Ice Arena directly behind the student section in the Cardinal Rink) will be posted on the [SPYHA calendar](#).

## SECTION 3: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR MINI-MITES

### MINI-MITES (6U)

Sun Prairie Youth Hockey follows the USA Hockey American Development Model program for its beginning skater levels. More information about this program is available from the coach or [USAHockey.com](https://www.usahockey.com). **Children of ANY age, even those older than 6, who want to learn to play hockey are welcome to enroll in this program.** The only requirement is that players who register for SPYHA programs have basic skating skills (e.g. participation in at least one session of Learn to Skate lessons). SPYHA has had players start in Mini-Mites as old as 12. Coaches will assist in appropriate placement during the evaluation process.

- Recommended for beginning skaters ages 4 to 6, but skaters can be any age (4 or older) who are just starting out.
- Cost includes protective equipment on a first come, first served basis. Families provide skates and hockey sticks. [See Equipment section.](#)
- No Dedicated Goalies.
- Skating skills and small area activities will be incorporated in every practice ice session.
- Teams consist of 6 to 12 skaters.
  - Players are grouped into teams of like abilities to match up with opponents and keep it fun.
  - Teams will be used for jamborees and in-house games. Most ice sessions do not revolve around specific team activities, but skating activities in general.
- Usually practice twice per week (each practice 45 minutes in length) with additional limited game schedule.
- Season split between two sessions:
  - Session 1 typically starts in October and ends in late December.
  - Session 2 typically starts in early January and ends in early March.
  - Players can register for the full season or just for the second session alone.
  - Players will not be allowed to join an in-progress session after the first week but will be encouraged to register for the next session.

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- During the first session, Mini-Mite teams participate in the SPYHA Gobbler Games, an all-day cross-ice jamboree in November held at the Sun Prairie Ice Arena for local teams. SPYHA teams' participation is covered by regular dues and by Mini-Mite families volunteering during the tournament. Each session may provide the chance to participate in additional cross-ice games at optional jamborees with same age/skill players from other associations. Costs (not included in dues below) are the responsibility of the players' families.

### MINI-MITE FUNDRAISING AND VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

Registration Type	Raffle Tickets	Volunteer Hours
Full Season (Oct-Mar)	6 tickets @ \$20 each = \$120	5
Session 2 Only (Jan-Mar)	\$20 flat fee	2.5

### MINI-MITE FEES

Level	Registration Fee	Capital Fund	Scholarship Fund	Ice Fee	Total Dues
Full Season	\$50	\$50	\$5	\$205	<b>\$310</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Session Only	\$50	\$50	\$5	\$125	<b>\$230</b>

The registration fee is NOT refundable. Capital fund and scholarship fund payments are not refundable after the start of the season. Refer to the [SPYHA Policy Manual](#) for SPYHA's refund policy.

### MINI-MITE JERSEYS

Mini-Mite players will receive their own jersey for use in both practices and games and may keep the jersey at the end of the season. Hockey socks are the responsibility of the family.

## SECTION 4: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR MITES

### MITES (8U)

- For ages 6 to 8 (birth year 2015 and younger) but may be extended to age levels beyond age 8 for newer skaters and/or upon coaches' recommendation. Players with a 2014 birth year should register at the Squirt level, but if you feel they are too new to skating, contact [ecomm@spyha.com](mailto:ecomm@spyha.com) for clarification.
- Dues include protective equipment on a first-come, first-served basis. Families provide skates, practice jersey and hockey sticks. See Equipment Section.
- Teams may participate in the Dane County League (DCL) which involves cross-ice/half-ice games with other associations. Schedule may include Sunday games, both at Sun Prairie Ice Arena and at other area rinks.
- Practice sessions may include goalies; cross-ice games will include goalies. The goaltender position is rotated among all team members.
- Practice two or three times per week, and possible additional game on Sundays. Each practice is 45 minutes in length. Skating activities and small area games will be incorporated in practice ice sessions.
- Teams will consist of 8 to 12 skaters.

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- All players will be evaluated as Advanced (Red), Intermediate (White) or Beginner (Blue) to match up with opponents and keep it fun.
- Mite teams participate in the SPYHA Gobbler Games, an all-day half-ice jamboree in November held at the Sun Prairie Ice Arena for local teams. SPYHA teams' participation is covered by regular dues and by Mite families volunteering during the tournament. Players may be allowed to attend in-season half-ice (Red/White/Blue) jamborees at other arenas. Participation is optional, and costs (not included in dues below) are the responsibility of the players' families.

### MITE FUNDRAISING AND VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

Raffle Tickets	Volunteer Hours
6 tickets @ \$20 each = \$120	15

### MITE FEES

Registration Fee	Capital Fund	Scholarship Fund	Ice Fee	Total Dues
\$50	\$50	\$5	\$570	<b>\$675</b>

The registration fee is NOT refundable. Capital fund and scholarship fund payments are not refundable after the start of the season. Refer to the [SPYHA Policy Manual](#) for SPYHA's refund policy.

### MITE JERSEYS AND SOCKS

Game Jerseys and Socks: Dues for Mite players include use of jerseys. Hockey jerseys remain the property of SPYHA. Failure to return jerseys in good condition at the end of the season will result in a \$100 fee being charged to the skater's account. Please take good care of the jerseys as they are required to last at least three seasons to keep our dues down. DO NOT SEW, GLUE, or otherwise adhere captain's 'C', assistant captain's 'A' or name patches to any SPYHA jersey. Failure to follow this guideline will result in the \$100 surcharge per jersey being applied to the skater's account. Jerseys are to be brought to the rink on a hanger or in a hanging bag and are always to be treated with respect.

Sock purchase (not included in dues) will be coordinated at the start of the season, and the socks may be kept by the player at the end of the season.

Practice Jerseys and Socks: Mite players are responsible for providing their own practice jerseys and socks. Game Jerseys and socks are not allowed to be worn during practice.

## SECTION 5: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR TRAVEL TEAMS (SQUIRTS, PEEWEES, BANTAMS, MIDGETS)

### TRAVEL TEAMS INFORMATION

Squirt, PeeWee, and Bantam travel teams participate in at least one out-of-town tournament, but typically average three per season. Away tournament fees are not covered by dues and are paid by the team slush fund, which is funded by each team's families. Squirt, PeeWee, and Bantam teams will also each host a Cardinal Cup home tournament. Cost of the Cardinal Cup tournament is included in dues, though families are required to volunteer their time during the tournament (registration tables, off-ice officials, etc).

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Teams participate in the Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association (WAHA) Region 4 playdowns late in the season to potentially qualify for the WAHA state tournament. One playdown game is included in dues (except Midgets). Any cost for additional playdown games and the state tournament are the responsibility of each team and are coordinated as needed after the first round of playdowns.

Midgets have two tournaments included in their dues.

The SPYHA Board registers each team for a minimum of one tournament for the 2023-24 season, based on our home ice availability. Teams will decide upon remaining tournaments and be responsible for all tournament fees for chosen tournaments.

Check the [SPYHA Policy Manual](#) for more information.

### TRAVEL TEAM FUNDRAISING AND VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

Raffle Tickets	Volunteer Hours
12 tickets @ \$20 each = \$240	40

### TRAVEL TEAM FEES

Level	Registration Fee	Capital Fund	Scholarship Fund	Ice Fee	Total Dues
Squirt	\$100	\$50	\$5	\$820	<b>\$975</b>
PeeWee	\$100	\$50	\$5	\$945	<b>\$1,100</b>
Bantam	\$100	\$50	\$5	\$1095	<b>\$1,250</b>
Midget	\$100	\$50	\$5	\$995	<b>\$1,150</b>

**NOTE: Travel players who register by August 15 will be offered a \$200 discount off the \$300 registration fee, which is already reflected in the table above. Any travel player who registers after the registration deadline is not guaranteed a roster spot.**

The totals listed above do not include mandatory fundraising and volunteer requirements. Failure to meet these additional requirements will increase the required out-of-pocket expenses. [Details on volunteer credits and fundraising are included in this packet.](#)

The registration fee is not refundable. Capital fund and scholarship fund payments are not refundable after the start of evaluations. Players choosing to leave SPYHA after evaluations are responsible for fees related to ice time used. Refer to the [SPYHA Policy Manual](#) for SPYHA's refund policy, including the policy for players selected to JV/Varsity teams.

Families will be invoiced at the beginning of the season based on the number of teams and estimated roster sizes determined in advance by the SPYHA board. SPYHA reserves the right to adjust dues to reflect actual roster size. For example, if registration at the PeeWee age level is finalized at 12 players per team instead of the estimated 14, the invoice for second half dues for each family will be adjusted to reflect the increase in skating dues.

## TRAVEL TEAM EQUIPMENT

SPYHA recommends (but does not require) black helmets, black gloves, and black breezers (pants).

Dues for Squirt, PeeWee, and Bantam players do not include use of jerseys or socks. These items will be purchased separately, paid for by the player and owned by the player. SPYHA will communicate about this process early in the season.

Dues for Midget players include use of home and away jerseys. Sock purchase will be coordinated at the beginning of the season, and the socks may be kept by the player at the end of the season. Jerseys remain the property of SPYHA and will be returned at the end of the season.

## SECTION 6: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **Q: Does SPYHA offer financial assistance?**

A: Yes. SPYHA strives to make hockey an affordable activity for all players. In cases of financial hardship, scholarships may be available. Refer to the Scholarships – John Churchill Youth Hockey Trust section of the [SPYHA Policy Manual](#) for more information.

### **Q: What happens if my player is injured during the season and cannot participate?**

A: Refer to the Injury/Partial Season Participation section of the [SPYHA Policy Manual](#) for more information.

### **Q: What are raffle tickets and how do they work?**

A: Every family is responsible for selling raffle tickets at the beginning of the season. The number of tickets families are responsible for depends on their players and the playing level. Drawings are held monthly for multiple \$100-\$250 winners. Families can either sell these tickets to family and friends or purchase them themselves. Refer to the Fundraising Requirements section of the [SPYHA Policy Manual](#) for more information.

### **Q: How can I reduce my family's dues?**

A: There are several ways to reduce your dues directly and indirectly. Direct dues reduction opportunities are by using Scrip and participating in Wreath and Cookie Dough sales, whereby your account is credited. Indirect dues reduction is primarily through Amazon Smile, whereby SPYHA increased its revenue, therefore requiring lower dues from families. Refer to the Fundraising and Dues Reduction section of [spyha.com](https://spyha.com) under the Volunteer tab. Also keep in mind staffing all concessions Dibs spots adds revenue for SPYHA and reduces dues.