



2025-2026
TRAVEL PROGRAM DETAILS

ATTITUDE ~ EFFORT ~ RESPECT ~ EXCELLENCE



2025-2026 STAFF

12U
SELECT

HC: Vytas Usaitis

14U
TIER 2

HC: Karina Muffoletto

16U
TIER 2

HC: Karina Muffoletto

HTX STORM HOCKEY DIRECTOR
Mike Zeibag

DIRECTOR OF 8U/10U PROGRAMS
Nikola Kivett

DIRECTOR OF PLAYER DEVELOPMENT
Sarah Donovan

DIRECTOR OF 12U/14U PROGRAMS
Vytas Usaitis

HEAD OF ROOKIES PROGRAM
Kara Wetzel





GUIDING PRINCIPLES

TRUST THE PROCESS - Keys to Success

It's a Marathon, Not a Sprint

Develop at the correct pace - *Thrive, Don't Survive*

Spend as much time as possible with the puck

Have Fun & Build Confidence

Positive Energy = Positive Results

Be a Team Player — Take Care of Each Other

Sign up for clinics, attend all practices, seek input from coaches

ATTITUDE + EFFORT + RESPECT = EXCELLENCE





PROGRAM GOALS

- Build the Storm Culture — commitments to Attitude, Effort, Respect, Excellence
- Develop strong, resilient, intelligent hockey players who are great teammates
- Develop winners — on and off the ice
- Build a nationally-recognized, competitive Tier 2 Travel Program in Houston
 - Provide a life/play balance for girls to thrive playing at home without sacrificing important teenage activities (other sports, parties, weekends, etc.)
 - Help families save money & avoid burnout
- Open pathways and support Storm girls to pursue opportunities with the Houston Jr. Aeros, Dallas Stars Elite Tier 1, and Colleges
- Leave No Girl Behind





2025-2026 PATHWAYS

2015-2016

STORM 10U
TOURNEY

STORM
10U HOUSE

2013-2014

STORM
12U SELECT

STORM
12U HOUSE

2011-2012

STORM
14U TIER 2

2009-2010

STORM
16U TIER 2

STORM
JV TEAM

2007-2008

TEXAS 19UT2
(FUTURE PLAN)

STORM
JV TEAM

COLLEGE

HOUSTON
JR. AEROS

DSE GIRLS
TIER I





2025-2026 PARTNERS

Partnerships with the Houston Jr. Aeros & Dallas Stars Elite Girls

- Joint Mission to provide the highest level of competitive play for those players whose skills and interest levels warrant a higher-level option than the Storm can provide
- In-Season & Off-Season coordination between program coaches & leaders working together
- HTX Storm players interested in playing Tier I are encouraged to communicate directly with their coaches — the Storm will help promote players and facilitate conversations as needed
- Top-performing 12U's wanting to play in Dallas will need Hockey Directors & TAHA approval
- Storm players offered DSE Tier I roster spots will need to communicate with Storm Hockey Directors to discuss weekday practice options with the appropriate level Storm team





2025-2026 I2U SELECT

- **Houston Girls Premiere Developmental Model for our higher skilled I2U players**
- **Hybrid between House & Travel programs — best of both worlds, save money, avoid early burnout**
 - **20 games in House coed league & 20-25 tournament games (including 2 fly-aways)**
 - **Continue weekday practicing at local rinks via house program to minimize car time**
 - **15-20 Select-only team practices on weekends and buckle opportunities with our I4T2 team**
- **Crown jewel for development — maximizing puck touches, ice time, confidence, & competition**
- **Why not full travel program at I2U?**
 - **Houston does not have the numbers to support this — yet — but the Select model works**
- **Success of program demonstrated via Championships and players moving on to next level**
- **Trust the Process — it's a marathon, not a sprint**





2025-2026 12U SELECT

- Open to 2013-2014 girls; 2015's may be considered on a case-by-case basis
- Season Targets
 - 5-6 Tournaments and scrimmage weekends — 20-25 games + 20 House = 40-45 total
 - Includes 3-4 in-state and 2 fly-aways — Nashville & TBD
 - 15-20 Select team practices, in addition to 2x/week House and Sunday Storm Practice Club (optional)
- Approximate Costs including Program Fees & Team Fees, not including Travel

STORM 12U SELECT

\$2,850

\$1,000 Select + \$1,850 House

HOUSTON JR. AEROS

\$4,200

\$3,400 Fees + \$800 Cash Call

DSE GIRLS TIER 1

\$7,700

\$6,000 Fees + \$1,700 Team Dues





2025-2026 14U TIER 2

- **2024-2025 Season Recap**
 - Texas State Champions with 2 games to 0 win over Dallas Stars Elite (best of 3)
 - 1-1 record at Regionals, just missed qualifying for Nationals
 - Total Season — 43 games, 85.5 practice hours — 8 Tourney/Scrimmage weekends incl. 3 fly-aways
 - Cost \$3,750 (\$2,850 goalies) was fraction of competing organizations
- **2025-2026 Plans**
 - 14U Tier 2 Girls State Championship will take place in Houston (alternating years w/ Dallas)
 - 7-9 Tournament and scrimmage weekends including 3-4 fly-aways
 - Expecting similar practice schedule to '24-'25 — one 90-min weekday, two 60-90-min weekends
- **Why don't we play in the Texas Hockey League (THL) vs. 12U boys teams?**
 - Focus is on development in most cost-effective way — last season proof the model works





2025-2026 16U TIER 2

- **2025-2026 Plans — Inaugural Season!**
 - Will replicate much of our successful 14U Tier 2 model
 - 16U Tier 2 Girls State Championship will take place in Houston (alternating years w/ Dallas)
 - 6-8 Tournament and scrimmage weekends including 3-4 fly-aways
 - Formation of Storm JV Team to compete in ISHL JV League — 10+ local, competitive, non-checking games
 - Expecting similar practice schedule to '24-'25 — one 90-min weekday, two 60-90-min weekends
 - One 90-minute weekday allows for balance with other teenage activities, saves car travel time
- **Why don't we play in the Texas Hockey League (THL) vs. 14U boys teams?**
 - Focus is on development in most cost-effective way — last season proof the model works
 - Storm JV team is perfect substitute to provide competitive, local games without having to travel to Dallas every weekend





2025-2026 19U FUTURE

- Working with Dallas Stars Elite to form a combined statewide 19U Tier 2 Prep team
 - Serve as a developmental steppingstone for players who aspire to reach Tier 1 level
 - Create a realistic college exposure path for those who want
 - Practices would mostly be local with 1-2 weekends per month spent in each other's city
 - Example:
 - Weekend 1 — Houston girls in Houston; Dallas in Dallas
 - Weekend 2 — Team practices in Houston
 - Weekend 3 — Houston girls in Houston; Dallas in Dallas
 - Weekend 4 — Team practices in Dallas
- High-level coaching and structure to ensure competitiveness
- Based on interest level and numbers, we may also offer a fully local 19UT2 Storm option





2025-2026 STORM

Thank you for your support as we build our program together

LET'S GO STORM!

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www.instagram.com/houstongirlshockeyassoc

