



## **Monroe Youth Hockey Association**

# **Informational Packet for Avalanche Hockey Players**

### **Monroe Youth Hockey Association Philosophy**

The Monroe Youth Hockey Association (MYHA) was organized to provide a well-balanced recreational and competitive hockey program by creating opportunities for all, aiding in the enrichment of the lives of the players and the realization of individual and team achievements of worth accomplished through one's own efforts. These achievements are to be attained through the guidance of our youth hockey coaches, parents, and the Board of Directors.

[www.monroeyouthhockey.com](http://www.monroeyouthhockey.com)

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## Introduction

Monroe Youth Hockey Association (MYHA) is pleased to have your family join our organization. Our coaching staff is very experienced and attentive to each player so that your son or daughter can become a talented hockey player. MYHA coaches are certified by USA Hockey. This pamphlet serves as a guide of what to expect as a parent of a hockey player. A full copy of the policy handbook can be downloaded from the MYHA website ([www.monroeyouthhockey.com](http://www.monroeyouthhockey.com)).

## Player Registration

We have online registration for all players U6 (Atoms) through U14 (Bantams). All players will need to register with USA Hockey before registering on the MYHA site. High school players register with their home schools and will play WIAA hockey in the Badger West Conference. You can register online beginning August 1.

- When registering online ([www.monroeyouthhockey.com](http://www.monroeyouthhockey.com)) begin with the oldest player in the family. You will need each child's USA Hockey number. This will autofill player information when you register on the MYHA site.
- Be sure to list email addresses for both parents for notifications from the association. This will be the main form of correspondence between MYHA and families.
- You have the option of paying fees online via credit card (additional non-refundable charges apply,) Venmo or PayPal or by check.
  - **Check** (in the drop box at the rink)
  - **Venmo** at MYHA-FORUM (If sending for the first time and it asks for the last 4 digits of the phone number, please use 6095).
  - **PayPal** at [4avalanche hockey@gmail.com](mailto:4avalanche hockey@gmail.com) (do not choose business or you will be charged fees.)
  - **Online** at the end of this registration. Please note you will be charged processing fees at checkout if you use this option.
- Be certain to click all the way to the confirmation page.
- If you have any questions regarding online registration, contact the registrar at [4avalanche hockey@gmail.com](mailto:4avalanche hockey@gmail.com).
- After you have registered your players, you will be able to claim dibs (volunteer hours) using your sports engine login information.

## Volunteer Hours

MYHA is an organization made up of 100% volunteers. There are no paid positions so that we can keep our player fees low. We have a number of opportunities where you can volunteer to help out the organization. The Board of Directors has put into place a policy that REQUIRES each family to complete the minimum amount of volunteer hours, determined by the level of a family's oldest registered player, or be charged \$25.00 per hour for each hour not fulfilled. This volunteer time is very important and is used to offset the operating expenses of the association. There are numerous ways to volunteer such as: working the concession stand at SLICE; driving the Zamboni; cleaning and maintaining SLICE; assisting with fundraisers; or volunteering a special skill such as electrical work, welding, painting, or woodworking. We need everyone's help to ensure all time slots are claimed. Dibs are added throughout the season so check often. It is recommended that everyone complete half of their minimum hours by December 31.

Total hours required (based on your oldest registered player):

- U6 - 25 hours
- U8 - 35 hours
- U10 to U14 - 50 hours

## Fees

MYHA's player fees are one of the lowest in the area. Please find all financial information on our website here: [Financial Info](#). We strive to do the best we can to keep our fees to a minimum. A USA Hockey membership fee is also required through their website at [www.usahockey.com](http://www.usahockey.com) for all players.

- MYHA hockey fees can be paid in two installments on November 1 and January 1. All fees must be paid on time or your player will not be on the ice until paid.
- A \$100 "tryout" fee is due before the first practice. This \$100 will be applied toward the season fees. Your

- player will not be allowed on the ice until this first \$100 payment is received.
- All past year fees must be paid in full before the beginning of the season, including unfulfilled dibs hours charged at a rate of \$25/hour. If past fees are not paid, your child will not be permitted on the ice until all monies are collected.

#### **Goalie Fees (approved at board meeting Oct 2021):**

Goalie fees will be reduced by 50% but based on the number of games that they play as goalie. Fees will be reimbursed at the end of the season once all games are played. Therefore, goalie families will still be responsible to pay the full amount upfront. Equipment that is stored in our equipment room is available to be used at no cost; you will need to have a board member or coach with you to check out equipment before taking it. MYHA will no longer purchase goalie equipment for individual goalies.

Here is how the fee reduction\* will work:

##### **For teams with one committed goalie:**

To get the full discount (50% off fees), the goalie must play all games and attend all scheduled tournaments. If the goalie does not play all games or attend all tournaments then his/her fees will be prorated based on the number of games played.

Tournament games and playdown games will count as two games each due to their importance and difficulty in finding a replacement.

##### **For teams with two goalies:**

If two goalies split the time in net 50-50, they will each receive half of the 50% discount.

If two goalies split the time 75-25, they will each receive that percentage of the 50% discount (or whatever percentage of games each plays.)

A goalie must play a minimum of 20% of the games in order to receive discounted fees.

Coaches and team managers will be responsible for making sure it's noted on the scoresheet which goalie played in net for each game.

*\*excluding U6/U8 as MYHA policy is that all players at these levels should have a chance to play goalie multiple times*

#### **Player/Family Notifications**

All correspondence from the association is done via email. The email you enter during the online registration process is the email that will be contacted. Please make sure you've entered your email correctly as this is the only way to receive correspondence from the association. You have the option to add a secondary email to receive notifications as well.

#### **Transfers to Another Association**

From WAHA handbook: *"A player may play for a team from the nearest association offering a **Division 1** team, provided the association serving player's place of residence is of a lower classification. The player must be selected by that nearest association to play on their **highest classified team**. For example: a squirt from a Division 3 association "B" team could play for a Division 1 association provided the player is selected to play on the association's "A" team. The player could not play for any association classified as Division 2, 3 or 4 or on any team other than the highest classified team of a Division 1 association. If a player is not selected to play on the highest-level team, the player must return to their home association"*

MYHA's policy follows WAHA's policy as stated above; in short, it does not grant transfer requests to other associations. A player must meet WAHA's requirements and make the top team of the nearest Division 1 association in order to transfer without a request. In that case, only a financial release is required.

#### **Fundraising**

MYHA sponsors a variety of fundraising activities. We count on all Avalanche Hockey families to work at the various events we sponsor. These fundraising activities keep our fees low. Please see the fundraising page on the Monroe Youth Hockey website for current season fundraisers or click this link: [Fundraising](#). Every family is required to choose at least one fundraiser to participate in during the season.

### **Scrip Gift Cards**

Scrip is a popular fundraising method used by many schools and non-profit organizations. Instead of using cash or a credit card to pay for your regular purchases, you can now use scrip gift cards from Great Lakes Scrip Center.

Scrip gift cards are the same as gift cards you would buy at the store. Many popular retailers participate in the scrip program including Kohl's, Amazon, Wal-Mart, iTunes, Pick 'n Save, and Kwik Trip, (just to name a few). You can see all cards at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com). There are even some cards that are instantly downloadable and printable and some that are electronically re-loadable.

How a scrip program works: MYHA families buy the gift cards from scrip participating retailers for full face value, and redeem them for full face value. Each gift card you buy will have a percentage assigned to it, which you will know before purchasing. Of that percentage, the MYHA board has voted that your family will keep 90% of it as a credit within the association for your family's hockey fees. MYHA will retain the other 10%. JC Penney's cards, for example, offer a 5% rate on their cards. If you buy a \$100 gift card, at a cost to you of \$100, you can use the card at any JC Penney's and spend the \$100. The great part is, you just took \$4.50 off of your fees for next season and "donated" \$0.50 to MYHA. If you're still wondering what the catch is...the catch, if you consider it one – is that families need to plan ahead a little, spend the money on gift cards, and do their normal shopping on groceries, gas, clothing, electronics, etc. with gift cards. To get started: Please see the "[Shop with Scrip](#)" page on our website for all details.

### **Concession Stand**

Every family is required to spend half of their Dibs hours in concessions. When working the concession stand, please read and follow the instructions for opening, operating, and closing the concession stand. The instructions are located in a binder and on the bulletin board in the concession stand. When working the last shift of the night, you are responsible for closing the facility. This includes counting money in the register and locking up the money, cleaning, empty all garbage (including locker rooms), turning off lights, and locking the doors. For your first couple times working the concession stand, it is beneficial to sign up with a veteran person so he/she can show you what needs to be done. The weekend you are scheduled to work you will receive an email for the code to enter the side door of the concession stand. Do not share this code with anyone. The code is changed often.

### **SLICE Facility**

It is our responsibility to maintain the SLICE facility. We ask each family to help out with weekly cleaning of rink and restrooms, maintenance, snow shoveling, glass cleaning, etc. You will be given credit in Dibs, even if these tasks are not listed in Dibs (eg. snow shoveling can't always be planned for.) If you perform work at SLICE and it is not in Dibs, please email [4avalanchehockey@gmail.com](mailto:4avalanchehockey@gmail.com) so the Dibs manager can credit your account. The tasks are not always glamorous, but they are always necessary to keep our facility maintained.

### **Fun Events**

MYHA also sponsors events throughout the year such as golf outing, Cheese Days float and Cheese Days Chase to name a few. At the end of the year, each team may play a parents vs. kids game which is a lot of fun for all. MYHA also has an appreciation day for MYHA sponsors/teachers/grandparents to watch their favorite athletes play.

Mite teams have also played between periods at UW men's and women's hockey games for Bucky's Mighty Mites.

### **MYHA Board of Directors**

The MYHA Board of Directors meet the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm at SLICE in Monroe.

If a member would like to submit an item to be on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled board meeting he/she would need to send their agenda item in writing or in an e-mail to the board secretary two weeks before meeting and be present at the meeting to discuss the agenda item.

The Forum - Monroe Youth Hockey Association, Inc. Board of Directors can be found on the website using this link:

[MYHA Board of Directors](#)

### **Practice Schedules**

When finalized, practice schedules will be posted on the website. We encourage families to attend open skate at SLICE

as much as you can. This will give your child more ice time and build his/her self-confidence. Open skate schedules are posted online.

## **Teams**

### **High School Teams – Boys and Girls**

The boys high school team has been part of WIAA since 2014 and play in the Badger West Conference. The team is made up of several schools in southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois. For updated information on the schools participating in the co-op, click on this link: [Wisconsin Prep Hockey](#)

Girls who attend Monroe High School must play on the Monroe High School Boys team (see above) beginning 2022 due to a decision made by the Monroe School Board in spring 2022.

Girls from other high schools in our youth co-op have the option of playing with the Rock County Fury Co-op who plays in the WIAA Girls high school hockey conference. Click on this link for more information: [Rock County Fury](#)

### **U10 to U14 (formerly Squirt, Peewee, Bantam)**

These levels are open to boys and girls. Games begin in November and will play through state tournaments in March. There will be tournaments scheduled for home and away. Tournament fees are included in hockey fees. For home tournaments, each family is required to volunteer a minimum of five hours in order to make the tournament a success.

### **U8 Team (formerly Mites)**

We have adopted the ADM model for the U8 level. Below is an explanation of the model. U8 hockey is open to boys and girls. More information is on our website under Teams > Mites. Players will play cross-ice games to develop their hockey skills. Games will be played on Sundays, November through February. U8 teams may play in cross-ice only tournaments. Fees paid do not include tournament fees.

### **Why ADM?**

The American Development Model is a nationwide model for successfully developing American hockey players. It is a tool that will ensure every kid will have the same chance to succeed.

By implementing ADM, associations see an increase in player retention. Again, ADM is a set of guidelines designed specifically to help kids reach their full potential.

One of the first things that USA Hockey did when beginning this project was to look closely at the statistics related to player development – specifically the skill development time each player has when in both a practice setting and a game setting. When viewed from the perspective of how kids learn the number of repetitions of specific skills and situations that occur in practice versus a game, we quickly learned where players have a chance to develop the most: practice.

A model was created that valued practices and proper training above all else. This isn't to say that the ADM is about taking the fun out of hockey, quite the contrary. Practices can and should be fun, especially if the kids are all playing together and having a blast with a game that they love. The more they play it, the better chance that they'll love it. When you combine a passion for the game with increased puck time, kids will start to excel at it. Play, love, excel. That's the ADM.

As research was conducted in developing the ADM, it became apparent that critical areas in our system were neglecting kids at a very early age. As children mature, they each progress through the same development stages. And certain aspects of these stages must be addressed at the appropriate points along the development curve in order for our children to reach their genetic potential. Maximum development occurs through age-appropriate structure and content. Without developing skills and certain physical and mental attributes at the appropriate time, the long-term prospects of becoming a truly elite player diminish each day.

Once the kids are on the ice and playing, the game itself can only take them so far. To love hockey, they first have to play it. To excel at it, they need to play it and love it. To love the game of hockey, kids first have to play it in an environment that brings out their passion, one that encourages them. The more they love the game, the more they'll play. The more they play, the better they'll get.

There needs to be reasons to love the game. If all they're doing is playing hockey 365 days a year, there's a good chance the game they're supposed to love becomes more of a chore than a passion. That amount of exposure too early on can put undue stress and pressure on them and give the kids plenty of reasons not to love hockey.

The bottom line is that if we can give kids reasons to stick with hockey, we can unlock their potential and help them excel at the game they play and love.

### **U6/Learn to Play (formerly Atoms)**

This level of hockey is for ages 4-8. Boys and girls will learn to skate forward and backward and learn basic hockey skills. All equipment (including helmet and skates) for first year Avalanche players is provided.

#### **Equipment**

For first year MYHA players, full equipment is provided by MYHA including: helmets, breezers (pants), chest pads, shin guards, elbow pads, gloves, socks, practice jersey, stick and ice skates (with the exception of mouth guards, pelvic protector, and equipment bag). The player is responsible for skate sharpening and replacement laces. After the first year, the family is responsible for all hockey equipment as listed above.

**Colors:** Black breezers and helmets are recommended. Home and away jerseys and socks will be provided by MYHA. The high school team wears white helmets, so those are also acceptable if a new helmet is needed at U14 level.

#### **Avalanche Apparel\***

At the beginning of the season, a link to order Avalanche apparel will be sent to all members for purchase. Items will include sweatshirts, T-shirts, hats, etc.

\*All digitizing and reproduction rights (of the Avalanche logo) belong exclusively to MYHA. Any other reproductions are not authorized.

#### **On Ice and Off Ice Facility Rental**

To rent the SLICE facility for on ice and off ice events (including weddings, birthday parties, corporate events, tradeshow, receptions, etc.) contact the VP of Facilities (contact information online in the Board Member directory) or click this link for more information: [Facility Rental](#). Dry floor sales are available mid-March through end of September.

#### **Have Your Birthday Party at SLICE**

Schedule your birthday parties, anniversary parties, wedding receptions, family reunions, or any gathering at SLICE. See the website for more information: [Facility Rental](#)

#### **Avalanche Coaches Registration**

MYHA is looking for new coaches every season. MYHA coaches are certified by USA Hockey. There is always need for good coaches and role models and coaching is a great way to help youth develop lifelong skills!

Here is the information to get started:

1. Register as a member of USA Hockey
2. Complete background screening
3. Complete USA Hockey Safe Sport (must be done every year)
4. Complete the online age-specific modules for the age level you will be coaching.
5. Register and attend a certification clinic.
6. Complete the MYHA Coaching Application found at this [link](#)

MYHA will reimburse your costs to become a coach once you are certified and submit receipts to the treasurer.

Here is the link to USA hockey to help you get started - <https://www.usahockey.com/coachingcertification>

#### **Team Representatives**

Each team rep will work with the coach in scheduling games, corresponding with team families, uploading stats after

each game and sending short game summaries to the Marketing Director for posting on social media.

### **Website and Facebook**

Avalanche Hockey's website is [www.monroeyouthhockey.com](http://www.monroeyouthhockey.com). Game and player stats, rosters, open skate schedule, future events, etc. are listed on our website.

Listed on the website is a link to like Avalanche Hockey (<https://www.facebook.com/monroeavalanche>).



[www.monroeyouthhockey.com](http://www.monroeyouthhockey.com)