



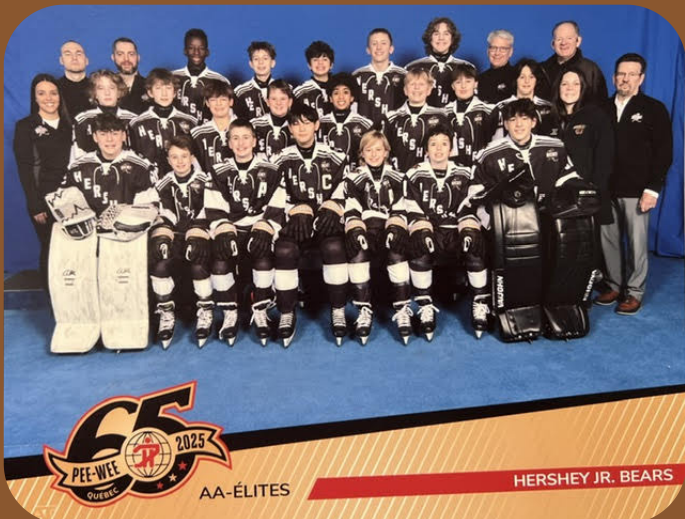
HERSHEY JR. 'BEARS'



NEWSLETTER

Hershey Jr. Bears Quebec Team

The Hershey Jr. Bears Quebec Team headed north to Quebec City, Quebec, Canada on Tuesday, February 11 to participate in the 65th edition of the Quebec International Pee-Wee Hockey Tournament. The Hershey team is especially proud of its participation in this event because they hold the distinct honor of having the longest consecutive attendance streak of any team in the world at 64 years! The team was crowned champions in three of the last fifteen years, often playing in front of crowds of 12,000 fans or more.



February 2025 IN THIS ISSUE

HJB Quebec Team

- HISTORY
- FORMER PLAYERS
- TOURNAMENT FACTS
- PLAYERS & PARENTS
- TOURNAMENT ACTIVITIES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- HJB TRYOUTS
- END OF SEASON SURVEY

FUNDRAISERS

- Skate-A-Thon

History

The tournament was founded in 1960 by Gérard Bolduc. In its first edition, 28 teams and about 20,000 spectators participated. The tournament was integrated with the festivities of the Carnaval de Québec which takes place during February.

This tournament provides its participants with a unique cultural experience. Between games, the players are given tours of the historic areas of Quebec City and are hosted by Quebec families who share their French-Canadian heritage with the participants. The experiences are truly unique and unforgettable and certainly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.



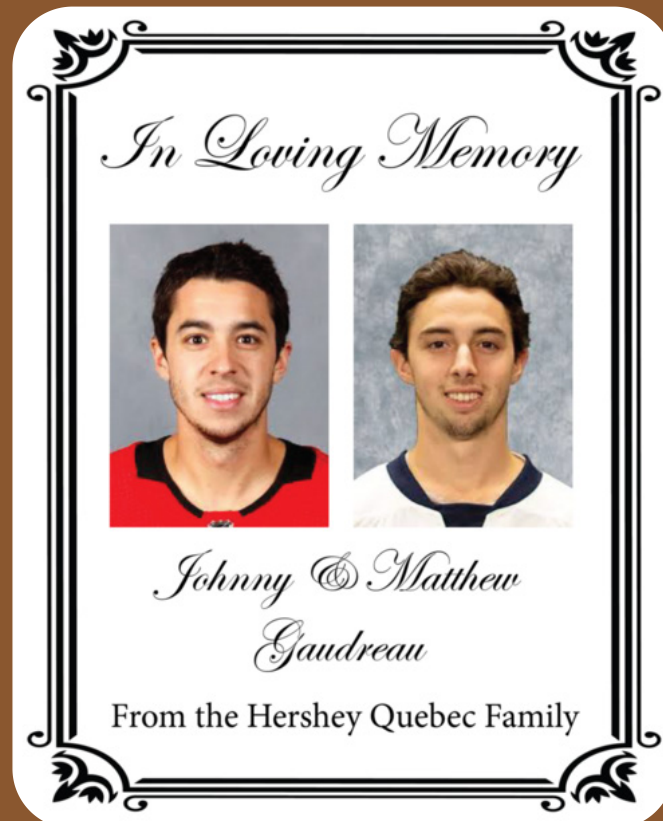
After more than 64 years of existence, the Quebec International Pee-Wee Hockey Tournament is still a place of unforgettable encounters and memorable souvenirs where thousands of players aged 11 and 12 come defend the colors of their teams. The great names of hockey such as Brad Park, Guy Lafleur, the Gretzky and Howe brothers, Mario Lemieux, Patrick Roy, Steven Stamkos and much more have all participated in this event at one point in their career.



Members of the first HJB Quebec team, 1961. Read more about this team at <https://news.thesunontheweb.com/articles/from-the-g-files-17/>

HJB Quebec: Former Players

This tournament has been a showcase for many former, current, and hopefully future, National and American Hockey League and NCAA players. Since the tournament's inception, it has drawn over five million spectators. In 2023, 2,300 players competed in this prestigious tournament from 18 different countries. Many present and former Hershey Bears have competed in the tournament. Some NHL, AHL players and NCAA players that have played for Hershey include Nick Foligno, Sammy Lafferty, Johnny and Matt Gaudreau, Graham McPhee, Sammy Lipkin, Tanner Kahlau, Dave Thomas, Daren Hersh, Bruce Hancock, Josh Maniscalco and many more.



Tournament Facts

Attendance

- In 1960, there were 20,000 spectators that encouraged the kids during the tournament.
- In 1999, a new record was set and 211,178 people came to encourage the talented young players.
- In 2016, the tournament entered the state-of-the-art Videotron Center. That year was a record year in terms of attendance with a total of 236,279 fans.

More than \$2 Million to the Patro Roc-Amadour Foundation

- In addition to letting thousands of kids live the dream, the tournament has always had the Patro Roc-Amadour foundation at heart. The tournament has donated more than 2 million dollars. It is in the Patro Roc-Amadour that the tournament has its Temple of Friendship. In it, you can find photos and trophies that have marked the tournament's history.

The Quebec International Pee-Wee Tournament in Numbers!

- More than 200,000 spectators over 12 days
- More than 14 million dollars in economic benefits for the City of Quebec
- 120 Teams from 18 different countries
- 350 host families
- 350 volunteers
- More than 2,000 players



Players & Parents

Lincoln Bame- #31 Goalie

Lincolns 2 favorite memories from the trip were of course the nights on the Outdoor Rink (ODR) with some of his teammates and players from other teams. He also really enjoyed seeing him and his teammates up on the Jumbotron in the Videotron Center.

"From a parent's perspective, I was thoroughly impressed by the number of people who came out to watch the 12-year-olds play hockey. The locals are incredibly supportive. From pin trading with the boys to enjoying watching the game of hockey. Additionally, the cuisine in Quebec City was an absolute delight. We didn't have a bad meal throughout our entire stay." - Brian Bame

John Carmelite- #37 Defense

"My favorite part was being with my teammates and experiencing the new culture."

"We enjoyed the culture of Quebec City; its architecture, food, and people. The support from the local Quebec and overall hockey community matched the high quality of hockey and competition." - Don and Betsy Carmelite

Brayden Good- #5 Defense

"Playing at the Videotron with all the fans cheering and screaming along with trading pins with other teams. Being able to spend time with the billets learning their culture and the ODR. Having amazing coaches that helped support me through this once in a lifetime experience. Teammates picking each other up and cheering on each other. Trying the amazing food they had to offer."

"Everything about the trip was amazing. Seeing the beautiful architect in Old Quebec City to their amazing cuisine. Building new friendships to last a lifetime with the billets and other Hershey families. Watching the boys being cheered on by the locals playing on the biggest stage of their life! To the incredible coaching staff pouring so much passion, dedication and teaching them the game along with life values to shaping them into young men." - Amber and Chris Albright



Players & Parents

Danny Dvorkin- #11 Forward

Favorite memory: Playing at the Vidéotron Center and in front of so many people. Scoring a goal in a game at Quebec during an exhibition game. Having lots of fun with my friends (teammates) and the Coaches.

Collin Rabideau- #13 Forward

Collin's favorite part was trading pins and spending time with his billet family and teammates.

"There were so many wonderful moments that it's hard to pick just one.

Watching my son and his teammates play the game they love on such a grand international stage will always be an unforgettable memory. Spending time with our incredible billet family, the other billets, and our Hershey families made the experience truly special." - Ali Rabideau

Shane Johnson- #48 Forward

Shane will always remember his incredible billet family and making memories with his teammates on and off the ice, like trading pins and snow tubing. He takes with him the valuable lessons of hard work and dedication that have been instilled by the coaching staff of the Hershey Jr Bears Quebec Team as he continues to pursue his love of hockey!

Brayden Latch- #25 Forward

Braydens favorite memory was skating on the outdoor rinks. He really enjoyed skating on the outdoor rink at the billet dinner with his entire team.

"Our favorite memory was the time we spent exploring Quebec doing the toboggan sledding and walking around the carnival together. Loved watching the games with the whole billet families." - Danielle and Billy Latch



HJB Quebec Activities



HJB Quebec Team Selection

2026 Eval/Tryout Requirements

In order to compete in the year 2026 Quebec Pee wee World Championship Tournament a player must be born in the year 2013. All players must be members in good standing with “USA Hockey.”

“Players that are the major pee wee birth year, are required to try-out for the AAHA District Player Development Pee Wee Quebec North or South team based on their landline area code of residence. This is the first step to be identified and evaluated as an Atlantic District resident hockey player. After the player goes through the AAHA District Player Development evaluation process and does not make either the North or South team, they are then available to try-out and play for another Pee Wee Quebec Tournament bound team.”

Players will be selected to the Hershey Jr. Bears Quebec team following “clinics” and “evaluations” that will be scheduled during the late spring and summer. However, evaluations typically will not yield the final roster. Final roster decisions are made by the middle of the Fall exhibition game season.

Players must live within a 100 mile radius to Hersheypark Arena

Players may participate in any other youth ice hockey program of their choice.

Announcements

SAVE THE DATES!

2025-26 Eval/Tryout dates listed below.



2025-26 TRAVEL HOCKEY EVALS:



AGE	DATE	TIME	DATE	TIME
8U MITES	MARCH 24	5:30-6:30 PM		
10U SQUIRTS	MARCH 24	6:45-7:45 PM	MARCH 26	6:00-7:00 PM
12U PEEWEES	MARCH 24	8:00-9:00 PM	MARCH 26	7:15-8:15 PM
14U BANTAMS	APRIL 14	6:00-7:00 PM	APRIL 16	6:00-7:00 PM
16U MIDGETS	APRIL 14	7:15-8:15 PM	APRIL 16	7:15-8:15 PM
18U MIDGETS	APRIL 14	8:30-9:30 PM	APRIL 16	8:30-9:30 PM
16/19U GIRLS	APRIL 21	7:00-8:00 PM	APRIL 23	7:00-8:00 PM

AT HERSHEY PARK ARENA

Additional details will be posted soon on our Facebook page and website



Please keep an eye out for the end of season survey. You should receive an email from your coach or manager with a link to take the survey.

Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who attended Skate-A-Thon! We were able to raise \$12,744, exceeding our goal of \$10,000!

A big thank you to our special guests of the evening: Hershey Bears Jim Jones as our emcee, Crystal Boudreau and the Hershey Cubs Hockey Club players and mascot Cubby. Thank you to Hershey Foods and Entertainment, Hershey Bears Booster Club, the Jr. Bears board members and everyone who donated!

The top three fundraisers were Gavin Schmelz \$650 raised, Charles Haley, \$670 raised and top fundraiser was Noah Long with \$965 raised! A big congratulations and thanks to all the players who raised money for the event!



Our Sponsors

ProRec RS | Professional Recruiters & Resource Solutions, LLC

ROHRER 

THE
DEBERNARDIS
GROUP
REAL ESTATE



TRAVEL CHAMPS

PROMOTIONS • HOTELS • TOURNAMENTS
APPAREL • EMBROIDERY • SCREEN PRINTING