



Call for Nominations



Elections for the Blackhawks' Board of Directors is just around the corner. There are several positions up for election; 1st VP Fund Raising, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary and Registrar. This is a great way to get involved and help support this great Club. Nominations are due by April 1st and the general election will be in April. If you are interested or have any questions email icescheduler@blackhawks.org

Officially Speaking...



Q: At the squirt level what's the most difficult call to make?

A: The toughest calls at the Squirt level are probably the Body Contact (legal) vs Body Checking (legal only at Bantam and above) plays. Even for an experienced Official, it can be tough to determine overall intent of the contact. Often, a better skating, bigger, stronger player can simply "wrecking ball" his way through opponents. It can be hard to determine if his actions are "aggressive" in nature, or merely a physical "hockey" play. Many of the stick fouls (e.g. hooking, tripping, slashing, high-sticking) are blatant and obvious, so those are easy.

Q: During a match, a parent verbally abuses an official relentlessly pounding the glass after pounding a few cocktails and profanely criticizing the officials. What can the officials do during the game? Can a team be penalized if a spectator is out of control?

A: For the Detrimental Spectator, the only real recourse an Official has is removing the spectator from the building. Play can be held until such time that the person leaves the playing area/building. Ultimately, the "ejection" goes to USA Hockey and Norcal, often resulting in a suspension and review. At the time, however, it could evolve into a rink matter with the police potentially intervening.

Tier vs. A/B



When a parent expresses concern over some playing time or whether the team will make it to the playoffs, the response should be to ask two questions:

- Is the child having fun?
- Is the child improving as a hockey player?

Sometimes, the player is doing fine but the parent is the one who is struggling. Usually, this is at the tier level where in important CAHA games, consistent with our club philosophy, a coach may go with his best players for long stretches of a game, on penalty kills, power plays and in the final minutes of a game. The age old hockey parent dilemma is Tier versus A/B. Tier offers more practice time and better competition but for some it is more stressful and more demanding. A player may not get as much playing time or as many puck touches than that same player would at A/B where the lines are rolled and the season is longer and devoid of intense "CAHA Weekends" where a team has to grind it out and sometimes play four games in less than two days.

So, as we head to spring tryouts in mid-April, Tier tryouts in mid-May, Memorial Day weekend tournaments, and A/B tryouts in early June... look back, and then forward. Talk to your child about spring: Does he want to play? At what level? Does he want to play another sport in the Spring? Many of our highest level kids still play baseball, lacrosse, and basketball in the spring and summer. In most cases, they don't miss a beat when they return to the ice, even compared to the kids who play lots of summer tournaments and go to expensive out-of-state camps. At the same time, those kids who play other sports during spring and summer develop other skill sets and muscle groups which may reduce injuries when they resume playing hockey. So talk to your kid, chart a course that's fun, don't worry about what the other kids (or their parents) are doing, or who got invited to go play with this or that team. If your kid specifically asks to play hockey, and you think its appropriate, keep checking our website for skills clinics and other opportunities which will begin after spring tryouts and run through A/B tryouts.

Congratulations to the following Blackhawks teams for making the Norcal Championships:

Squirt BB

Peewee B

Midget A

Go out and support our teams at San Jose this weekend!

See <http://www.ncyh.com/Sched/SanJose-Rink.html> for the schedule of games.



SUMMERHAWKS

2016 SPRING HOCKEY

Team (birth years)

Mites (2008 - 2010)
 Squirt 1 (2006 - 2007)
 Squirt 2 (2006 - 2007)
 PeeWee 1 (2004 - 2005)
 PeeWee 2 (2004 - 2005)
 Bantam (2002 - 2003)
 Bantam 2 (2002 - 2003)
 Midget Open (1998 - 2001)

Coaches

Eric Pane & Kevin Bergner
 Sova Khuong
 Shaun Collins
 Lino Persi & Erik Hove
 Allen Collins
 Errol Garcia
 Jorge Murillo & Doug Gutierrez
 Mike Mendez

Tryouts:

Mites	Fri, 4/15/2016	6:30 - 7:15pm
Squirts	Fri, 4/15/2016	7:15 - 8:00pm
	Sat, 4/16/2016	12:30 - 1:45pm
PeeWee	Fri, 4/15/2016	8:00 - 9:15pm
	Sat, 4/16/2016	2:00 - 3:15pm
Bantam	Fri, 4/15/2016	9:30 - 10:45pm
	Sat, 4/16/2016	3:30 - 4:45pm
Midget	Sat, 4/16/2016	5:00 - 6:15pm

All tryouts will be held on the South Rink at Shark's Ice in San Jose.

For more info, please contact directorhockey@blackhawks.org

6-week Season
 April 18th – May 30th

15+ hours Ice Practice
 Dry-land training
 (12 hrs for Mites)

Skill Development &
 Strong Fundamentals

Memorial Day
 Tournament in SoCal

Cost = \$460 (\$400 Mites)

Includes:

- Practice ice
- Tournament fee
- S-hawk Jerseys
- Coach Stipend & Travel

Tryout Fee = \$35

Click [HERE](#) to Register online
 or go to www.blackhawks.org



Summerhawks Bantam AA Program

SoCal Jamboree (Valencia, CA) May 7-8
 4 games vs. Ducks 02, Bears 02, Bears 03

Carmen Starr Tournament (Los Angeles, CA) May 27 – 30
 5 game guarantee

Program Cost: \$770* (*final cost subject to team composition)
 Includes: Practice Ice (~15 sessions); Tournament fees; Jerseys; Coach's stipend/travel

Tryout Fee: \$25 Thursday, March 24, 6:00pm @ Sharks Ice Fremont
 Contact Head Coach Jorge A. Murillo to reserve your tryout spot (jorgeamurillo@msn.com)

