

Minnesota Disabled Hockey Report
June 19, 2017

USA Disabled Hockey:

DISABLED HOCKEY WORKSHOP

USA Hockey and the Columbus Blue Jackets are proud to announce that the 2017 Disabled Hockey Workshop will be September 29 - October 1 in Columbus, OH. New and existing program administrators from around the country will come together for a weekend of educational sessions and networking. There will be planned social events, including a Keynote Speaker.

All classroom sessions and training will be held at the Nationwide Arena, home of the Columbus Blue Jackets, in the heart of the Arena District and walking distance from many restaurants and bars.

2018 Disabled Hockey Festival Announced

USA Hockey, the Central District, and Amateur Hockey Association of Illinois are proud to welcome and invite you to the 14th annual Toyota-USA Hockey Disabled Hockey Festival to be held at the Leaf's Ice Centre in West Dundee, IL. This year the disciplines will be broken up between two weekends.

April 5-8, 2018 - Blind Hockey, Deaf / Hard of Hearing, Special Hockey & Warrior / Standing Amputee

April 12-15, 2018 - Sled Hockey

The mission of the Festival is to provide a fun and exciting weekend of hockey in a grand event as well as promote and grow disabled hockey throughout the country. The event is the largest disabled hockey event of its kind, bringing together all of the disabled hockey disciplines in one location.

USA Hockey is proud to announce its 12th Sled Hockey Select Camp

The USA Hockey Player Development Committee is seeking nominations for the twelfth annual 2017 USA Sled Hockey Select Camp scheduled for July 9-14, 2017 at the Northtown Center in Amherst, New York. Players who are between the ages of 14 and 20 years of age or are over 20 years of age who have been playing sled hockey for three years or less are eligible to be nominated for this camp.

Minnesota Disabled Hockey:

Minnesota Warriors:

- The Warriors participated with five teams in Hendrickson Tournament (Two out state and three in MN). We sent one team to the USA Hockey Festival which came in 3rd. Our AHA Team finished out of the playoffs at the C3 level.

- We had two teams in the Walleye Chop and we sent one team to the inaugural Warrior Classic in Washington, DC.
- We will be sending a team to Detroit Lakes for a fundraising game and we have a charity game in mid July planned.
- We shot a female for a camo military uniform / warrior hockey marketing campaign, similar to our existing Warrior photo, and will be pursuing a women's team in the near future.
- We leave at the end of July for the VFW National Convention.

Minnesota Sled Hockey:

Metro team update:

- The MN Wild Sled Hockey ended their 2016-17 season with at the National Disabled Fest in San Jose, CA. The adult competitive team took third place in the Open A division, while the youth team played their first in the youth A division. A great weekend was had by all.
- In June, seven of our youth players attended the 2nd Annual Griffs Sled Hockey camp in Grand Rapids, MI. This camp features several USA National team players and coaches.
- Were all looking forward to a fun summer, but can't wait to get back on the ice!

Rochester team update:

- 3 of our players, Nick, Cody and Justin, participated in the National Disabled Hockey Festival in San Jose, CA
- Our players participated in weekend tournament in Madison, WI in April 2017.
- We will be continuing our regular practice over the summer and look forward to finalizing our schedule for the 2017-18 season.

Hope, Inc. update

- We finished up our sled hockey season with a first place finish in the B division for our junior team! Our adult team played against competition for the first time and kept each game within 2 goals. They finished the tourney at San Jose with a record of 1-3.
- Grant Boser from West Fargo received an invite to attend the elite sled hockey camp in NY in July! We are super proud of him. His hard work is paying off! He is only 15 and has a very bright future.

- Our 3rd annual sled hockey mini camp will be held 8/14-8/16. We anticipate 40 skaters to take part.

Minnesota Special Hockey:

With another fantastic season in the books, we are looking forward to our next season.

- The annual summer picnic will be held in the end of July in Edina. Our awesome volunteers will also be recognized at this event.
- This summer we will be updating all of our promotional items including brochures and the website. As our program continues to grow every year we are looking for the best places for growth and new ideas to encourage new players to give Minnesota Special Hockey a try.
- We are looking to develop three new teams in Minnesota over the next 2 years. Currently we are targeting the Brainerd area with 2 more to be determined.
- Minnesota Special Hockey reached a new recruitment high with 191 registered players in 2017.

Minnesota Disabled Hockey Committee:

- Minnesota Disabled Hockey continues to plan for the 2017 NHL Sled Classic to be held at the Plymouth Ice Center November 16-19, 2017. We are currently looking for event and ad sponsors.
- Minnesota Disabled Hockey is partnering with the Wounded Warriors Project, United Heroes League and Minnesota Warriors and Sled Hockey for a Try Sled Hockey for free event at the Plymouth Ice Center on July 28th at 3pm. Come out and support our wounded vets and assist them with discovering this amazing sport.

Respectfully submitted,
Antonia Gillen
USA Disabled Hockey Director
Minnesota District