



ANCHORAGE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

AHA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

HELPING EVERY KID PLAY THE GREATEST GAME ON ICE

THE 2025 GREAT ALASKA DUCK RACE BREAKS RECORDS!!!!



The North Stars program started the season off with a bang by breaking every record in terms of tickets sales and participation in the 2025 Great Alaska Duck Race.

This event helps to build teamwork, collaboration and requires a great deal of effort from it's Director, Kirk Kullberg as well as all of our amazing team managers, parents, and players. We are proud to announce that our teams were able to raise over \$100,000 (that's right 100k!) to help support our teams to lower their out of pocket costs for the season. Not to mention it's an amazing and fun event for all involved.

Kudos to Kirk, the parents and players for an amazing start to the 2025 Season!!!



ANCHORAGE HOCKEY
ASSOCIATION



AHA TEAM SPOTLIGHT

A LASTING LEGACY OF SUCCESS

16A COMETS - DUNNE



STATE CHAMPIONS



Building a legacy takes focus, time, consistency, and skill. Even then, nothing is guaranteed.

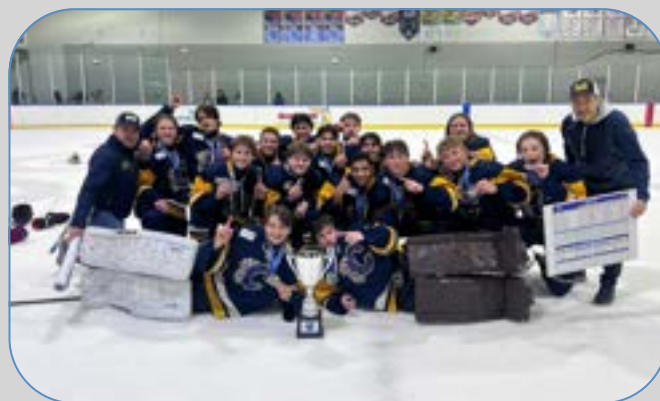
Coach Marc Dunne has been able to continue his success on and off the ice with Comet teams throughout the past five seasons and the sixth looks no different.

As Coach Dunne and Coach Sillers approach the 2025/26 season they are excited about a consistent and hard working group of young athletes who remain dedicated to their craft. "We have a great core group of players and families who have been committed to the team and to our mission", says Coach Dunne. "Our hard-earned success at all levels the past few years has definitely created a palpable buzz around this team."

The Comet Program plays at the Rec A level and competes regularly with teams from across the state at the Rec A and Tier II levels.

"This has always been a tough team to make," says Coach Dunne, "And I hope kids don't feel too discouraged if they don't make it. Cuts are always tough but the important thing is to be on the ice playing at the right level."

Last year, Coach Dunne and the team flew to Florida for a competitive tournament and took home the gold in dramatic fashion in a shootout!



This season, the Comet 16's plan to test the waters by first competing in AHA's own Termination Dust Tournament in the 16 Tier 2 Division with game one kicking off on 10/3 on BBI at 9:45 am. "It'll be a good test for us. We've had a couple games so far and a few weeks of practice. We are certainly a bit green, but excited." The team also plans to visit a tournament outside of Alaska - likely in Las Vegas, where they can try their luck against a variety of outside competition.

"We travel and play in tournaments with the intent to perform well and to bring home the trophy." said Coach Dunne. "We are here to compete."

AHA is thankful for the consistent dedication and effort from all our teams and coaches. We plan to spotlight the incredible work of our coaches and teams at all levels throughout the season.



RECENT HAPPENINGS

AHA'S NEW TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The brand new AHA Training and Development Center (aka 'The Hockey House') has been a hub of activity and events already in September of 2025.

YOUTH REFEREE TRAINING | PARTNERING WITH AHO



Our new facility has given us the opportunity to welcome our families in ways we never have before.

In partnership with Alaska Hockey Officials, we were able to host parents and young players interested in becoming a referee to hear directly from Louis Imbriani in our amazing classroom.

The process of getting set up and trained as an official was discussed with over 16 families!

SEPTEMBER PARENTS NIGHT OUT | 9.20.2025

Our first Parent Night Out event was a smashing success!

Pickle ball, arts and crafts, dodgeball, some pizza and a movie. A great time was had by all involved! We look forward to welcoming our AHA families again on October 25th for the next offering of our Parent's Night Out program.

This program and all proceeds raised go directly to support our player volunteers who dedicate their time to be a part of this program.

This is a great opportunity to get a night away from the rink where you can rest assured that your kid(s) will have a great time in the care of our AHA staff and player volunteers.



Registration for the next Parents Night Out (October 25) opens up on October 4 at 8 am at www.anchoragehockey.com/trainingfacility

Space is limited to the first 25 participants so get signed up right away!

WWW.ANCHORAGEHOCKEY.COM



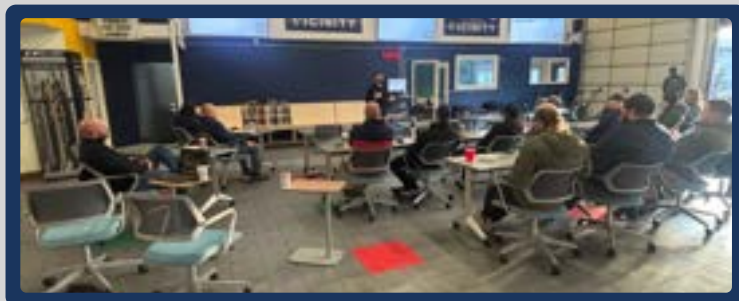
**ANCHORAGE HOCKEY
ASSOCIATION**

RECENT HAPPENINGS

AROUND THE RINKS AND IN OUR COMMUNITY.....

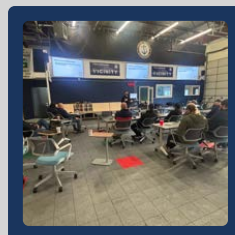
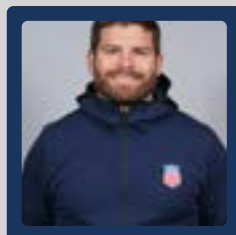
Your dedicated AHA staff is working hard to provide a better experience and opportunity to our players, coaches and families

AHA COACHES TRAINING | SESSION 1



AHA kicked off a four-part training series for our coaches, led by none other than Alaska's own Nick Walters.

Nick is the former Wolverines HC and has experience coaching at the D1 level with UAA and at the National level with the USA Women's National Team.



With just under 30 coaches in attendance the first event was a great success. We look forward to welcoming more coaches from all levels to session 2 on October 19th at 6 pm.

GIRL SKATES ARE BACK | SESSION 2 OCTOBER 19TH

AHA's first 10 & under girls skate of the season is in the books and one for the books it was! We had a record number (42) girls in attendance for this fun-filled monthly event.

AHA is in its fourth year of offering these skates and the success and happiness of the girls on the ice just keeps growing.

Our next Girls Skate will be held on October 19th at 12:15 pm at Dempsey Anderson Ice Arena. Registration is required at www.anchoragehockey.com/girlsdevelopment. This skate is open to all girls 10 and under regardless of who they play for or where they play. Come join the fun!



SEATTLE KRAKEN LTP

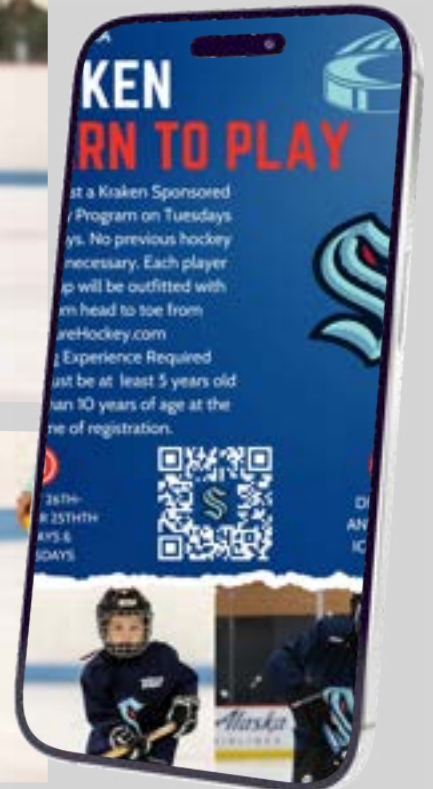
ABOVE ALL ELSE, IT'S ABOUT THE KIDS.....



The 2nd year of partnership between AHA and the Seattle Kraken for a 'Learn to Play' program was another year of fun, smiles, learning and growth.

AHA and the Kraken offer this as a fall program where an entire set of gear is provided along with the ice time and coaching that incorporates the USA Hockey ADM model for Learn to Play.

This program is a very affordable opportunity to introduce young players to hockey in a way that develops a love for the game without the full season time and cost commitment required.





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WHAT'S COMING UP

AHA'S NEW TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER

While our new facility was built with top notch off-ice training in mind, we also built it to be able to host trainings, meetings, fundraisers and more. Below are a few upcoming events.

"ALONE WE CAN DO SO LITTLE; TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH."

– HELEN KELLER

SESSION 2
NICK WALTERS

AHA Coaches Training

WHEN | OCTOBER 19TH | 6-8 PM
WHERE | 801 E 82ND AVENUE STE. B1

2023-2025 : ANCHORAGE WOLVERINES HEAD COACH
2022-2023 : WOLVERINES ASST COACH
2021-2022 : USA WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM VIDEO COACH
2019-2021 : USA ASST COACH
2015-2020 : USA DIRECTOR OF HOCKEY OPERATIONS
2013-2016 : CNOGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASST COACH

COME JOIN YOUR FELLOW AHA COACHES AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF AN ENGAGING AND IN-DEPTH COACHING DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING PROGRAM.

FOOD TO BE PROVIDED

FUTURE SESSION DATES:
NOVEMBER 16TH, JANUARY 23RD
ALL SESSIONS 6-8 PM | AHA TRAINING CENTER

AHA COACHES TRAINING

AHA Training and Development Center

801 E 82nd Avenue Ste. B1 Anchorage, AK 99518
Session 2 | Sunday October 19th, 2025 | 6 pm – 8 pm

Our coaches have asked and we have been listening. AHA is proud to announce a four session in-depth coaching training program facilitated by Alaska's own Nick Walters.

Nick is the former Wolverines HC and has experience coaching at the D1 level with UAA and at the National level with the USA Women's National Team.

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

AGES 5 AND UP
06:00PM-9:00PM

SATURDAY
September 20
October 25
November 22
December 15
January 24
February 14

801 E. 82ND Ave, Unit B1
Anchorage, AK 99518

Need a night out? We've got you covered! Drop your kids off for a fun-filled evening while you enjoy some well-deserved time to yourself. Activities will include game time, crafts, activities and a movie. Kids will be supervised by older Girls North Star Teams and staff members.

These events act as a fundraiser for teams working and ALL proceeds go directly to these teams.

Registration will become available three weeks prior to event at 6PM on the training center website.

WWW.ANCHORAGEHOCKEY.COM/TRAININGCENTER

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

AHA Training and Development Center

801 E 82nd Avenue Ste. B1 Anchorage, AK 99518
Saturday October 25th, 2025 | 6 pm – 9 pm

This is a great opportunity to get a night away from the rink where you can rest assured that your kid(s) will have a great time in the care of our AHA staff and player volunteers.

To sign up for the next Parents Night Out on October 25th, the registration will be open on our website at www.anchoragehockey.com/trainingfacility on October 4th.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

GAMES TO WATCH FOR

14U NORTH STAR GIRLS

OCTOBER 26, 2025 @ 9:30 AM - KENAI VS. KENAI

16U NORTH STAR GIRLS

OCTOBER 26, 2025 @ 11:15 AM - O'MALLEY RED VS. ALL STARS

10U MINOR WEIDNER

OCTOBER 11, 2025 @ 2:45 PM - BEN BOEKE VS. OILERS

10U MAJOR WISTHOFF

OCTOBER 11, 2025 @ 11:30 AM - DEMPSEY VS. EVERETT WA

12U MINOR WIGREN

OCTOBER 11, 2025 @ 8:00 AM - BOEKE VS. JR. KRACKEN

12U MINOR STECYK

OCTOBER 11, 2025 @ 6:30 PM - BOEKE VS. EVERETT WA

12U MAJOR KULLBERG

OCTOBER 11, 2025 @ 9:30 AM - DEMPSEY VS. OILERS

10U AHA REC CLINICS

MONDAYS @ 5:45 PM - DEMPSEY

12U AHA REC CLINICS

WEDNESDAYS @ 5:45 PM - DEMPSEY

UPCOMING EVENTS

TERMINATION DUST INVITATIONAL

WEEK 2: 10/10 - 12 (12U & UNDER)

FIRST 2025-26 GOALIE CLINIC

10/18 @ 7:45-9 AM @ DA1

GIRLS 10 AND UNDER FUN SKATE

10/19 @ 12:15 PM @ DA2

AHA COACH TRAINING

10/19 @ 6 PM - AHA TRAINING CENTER

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

10/25 @ 6 PM - AHA TRAINING CENTER

DUAL ROSTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE

DECEMBER 15

COACH CERTIFICATION DEADLINE

DECEMBER 15

ALASKA STATE SELECTS

DECEMBER 19-21

USA Hockey MAGAZINE

TOP USA HOCKEY ARTICLES THIS MONTH

Courtesy of USA Hockey Magazine

COLLEGIATE GAINS

NCAA DIII AND ACHA HELP KEEP THE LOVE OF HOCKEY ALIVE IN COLLEGE STUDENTS.

TIGHT HIPS, LOST SHIFTS

DR. HOCKEY COVERS WHY HIP FLEXORS ARE IMPORTANT, WHAT MAKES THEM VULNERABLE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SEASON, AND HOW TO PROTECT THEM.

WELCOME NEW PARENTS

TIPS AND TRICKS ON HOW TO SURVIVE YOUR FIRST SEASON AS A HOCKEY PARENT.

HELPING EVERY KID PLAY THE GREATEST GAME ON ICE.....

