



2019-2020

Development Programs

8u ADM

14u In-House

Message from our President

Thank you for your interest in the North Pittsburgh Wildcats. Our association is a non-profit organization offering youth ice hockey programming in the north suburbs of Pittsburgh. The association's mission is to provide our players with a competitive and complete youth hockey experience.

The association saw **strong growth** in 2018-2019, with increased participation in all of our hockey programs including Learn-to-Play, 8u ADM, 14u In-house and travel programs.

Throughout the season, our players made significant improvement with their hockey skills. Additionally, they also gained good life skills such as teamwork, perseverance, and sportsmanship as the season progressed.

For 2019-2020, NPYHA will continue to offer hockey programs for children of all ages and skill levels. We will feature a travel hockey program that will compete regionally in PAHL with teams at the AA, A Major, A Minor, and B levels. We will offer an in-house league for hockey enthusiasts born in 2005 through 2010. We will offer our traditional cross-ice program for players ages 8 and under born in 2011 through 2014. We will continue to offer development programming to introduce children to our great game.

This document describes our in-house and cross-ice programming for the upcoming season. To get a feel for the number of players interested in these programs, we conduct a spring evaluation to prepare for the season in the fall. Players who attend our evaluations will ensure their placement in our programming in the fall.

All of the key information you need to prepare for this year's evaluation process is contained in this document. Please read it entirely before registering. We look forward to another great hockey season in 2019-2020.

All the best,

Chad Weaver
NPYHA President

Recreational and Developmental Hockey

The North Pittsburgh Youth Hockey Association (NPYHA) offers recreational and developmental hockey programming for children ages 14 and under in the Pittsburgh area. Although these programs are developmental in nature, they are not introductory programs. Participants should have previously taken a Learn-To-Skate program as well as a Learn-To-Play-Hockey program such as NPYHA's Little Wildcats Learn to Play Hockey program.

Our 8U Mite ADM program for players born in 2011 to 2014 features one practice per week with station-based small area games. Games are played on weekends in a cross-ice (3-on-3) or half-ice (4-on-4) configuration. In addition, our 2011 birth year Mite ADM players will receive full ice exposure via "call-ups" which are invitations to fill in for a team in a full ice game in our In-House program.

Our 14U In-House program for players born in 2005 to 2010 features one practice per week and one full ice game played on weekends. We typically split the players into two divisions based on player size and experience. For example, a "North" division would contain older players (12-14) and larger players, whereas a "South" division would contain younger players (9-11) and smaller players. Players from this program may have the opportunity to participate in games against teams from other associations, if suitable competition can be located.

Player skills will be evaluated by our on-ice program director. NPYHA reserves the right to reassign players to our learn-to-play program should there be a need for additional development prior to participation in these programs.

The following table summarizes recreational and developmental hockey programming offered by the association for the 2019-2020 season.

Programming	Wildcats 14U In-House	Wildcats 8U Mite ADM
Birth Year Eligibility	2005 to 2010	2011 to 2014
Number of Teams	9	15
Player Capacity	135	150
Commitment Fee	\$200 due online	\$200 due online
Organizational Fee Estimate	Approximately \$1000 early bird price. Approximately \$1050 registering after May 11	Approximately \$775 early bird price. Approximately \$825 registering after May 11
Uniform Cost Estimate	\$110-\$120	\$110-\$120
Ice Slots	2 per week	2 per week
Games and Scrimmages	16	16
Tournaments	1 or 2	1-2
Jamborees	0	3-4

Financial Commitment

You will be required to pay a **Commitment Fee** before player evaluations to secure your spot in the program. Your Commitment Fee acts as a down payment and will count towards your Organizational Fee for the season.

Organizational Fees cover each player's ice time for practices and games. The fees listed above are approximate, and will be finalized over the summer after the final rosters are determined and the annual budget is approved.

Players registering after May 11 will incur a late fee of \$50.

Additional fees may be collected during the season to form a pool of funds to cover team-specific expenses, such as tournament fees, extra ice slots, and team social activities. The amount to be collected will be determined by your program manager.

Uniform Costs are estimated. If you have your uniform from the previous season, you may re-use it for this season if it fits. If it does not fit or you need to replace your uniform from last year, or you are new to our program, **you will need to purchase a new uniform**. If you have a uniform from last year, please check the fit on your player. If you do not expect that the uniform will fit for the entire season, you should order a new uniform. Ordering information will be sent to you after the evaluation process.

When ordering a new uniform, it is important to ensure that the jersey will fit with your player's equipment on. To check jersey fit, please attend one of our fitting sessions over the summer. Sorry, we cannot accept requests for specific jersey numbers.

Registration Process

Register with USA Hockey

You must have a USA Hockey registration number to register for NPYHA evaluations. Obtain your registration number online at www.usahockeyregistration.com. Registration for USA Hockey registration opens **April 1**.

Register for an NPYHA Program

Registration for Wildcats programming is expected to open online on or around **April 1**.

With your USA Hockey registration number handy, go to the NPYHA web site at www.wildcatshockey.net and go to **Tryouts > Registration**. Click on the appropriate link to register for the NPYHA ADM and In-house program.

If a program reaches capacity and you are unable to register, please contact our Director of Hockey Development (hdp@wildcatshockey.net) to be placed on our waiting list.

You must have a SportNgin ID and password to access our registration system. If you are a returning player, you will need to retrieve your ID and password from last year. If you are new to NPYHA, you will need to create a new ID and password.

Player Evaluations

Check our web site to determine your scheduled time for your evaluation on May 11. Players will be separated by age for the sessions on the evaluation day.

There will be a sign-in table at the front of the rink, where we will take attendance, collect any paperwork, and assign each player an evaluation number to be pinned on the outside of your player's jersey. The evaluation number is required to be displayed on the front and back of each player's jersey for the evaluation process.

In addition, if you are new to NPYHA this year, you must provide your player's proof of age at the beginning of the season. A copy of the player's birth certificate is acceptable.

Evaluation Dates and Times

Please note: all dates and times are subject to change.

Program	Attendees	Date	Time
14U In-House	See our website	Saturday May 11	2:50 PM to 3:50 PM 4:05 PM to 5:10 PM
8U Mite ADM	See our website	Saturday May 11	11:05 AM to 12:05 PM 12:20 PM to 1:20 PM 1:35 PM to 2:35 PM

The Evaluation Process

Preparing for the Ice

Arrive at the rink for your designated evaluation in plenty of time to check in and change. Important! Do not wear jerseys with team or program logos on the front or last names on the back. Bring two jerseys - one dark and one white jersey. Please do not wear bright colors like red, green, or orange.

You will be given pin-on evaluation numbers. You need to keep your pin-on numbers on your jersey for the evaluation process. Please note that we will assign you a jersey color (dark or white) during evaluations.

Evaluation Absences

If a player is going to miss all or part of the evaluation process due to injury, illness or a school-related conflict, **you must still register and pay your Commitment Fee.**

You must also notify Director of Hockey Development Cari Kelm (hdp@wildcatshockey.net) and Registrar Neal Cerqua (registrar@wildcatshockey.net) as soon as possible.

We will do our best to accommodate a player's absence.

Post Evaluation

After the evaluation, we will assign your player to a team and a practice group. We will notify you via email to let you know when the first practice of the season will be.

Refunds Policy

Refunds

Commitment and organizational fees WILL NOT BE refunded, except for the reasons listed below:

1. If you move from the Pittsburgh region prior to the start of the season, NPYHA will release you from our rosters and refund your fee.
2. If you move after the start of the season, NPYHA will release you from our rosters and pro-rate your reimbursement based on your departure date.
3. Injury refund – no refund for the first month of injury, \$100 per month thereafter. Must have doctors note.

Volunteers Needed

Parent volunteers are needed to ensure the success of these programs. NPYHA is seeking the following volunteers for the Wildcats 8U and 14U development programs. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Cari Kelm at hdp@wildcatshockey.net.

Program Manager

- conducts all planning with On Ice Director
- collects and retains all coach and player paperwork
- controls communication with member families from evaluations to end of season party
- manages call-ups from 8U to 14U
- oversees volunteer committee (scheduler, equipment manager, and tournament director)

Program Equipment Manager

- hosts 2-3 jersey fitting sessions over the summer
- collects uniform requirements, including jersey size, socks size, and jersey number
- confirms sizes with member families prior to order
- orders uniforms
- monitors progress of uniforms
- distributes uniforms
- creates written inventory of program equipment
- signs out and distributes goaltending equipment to coaches
- signs out and distributes water bottles, white boards, and pucks to coaches
- collects and signs in equipment at end of season
- coordinates cleaning of equipment at end of season
- reconciles all missing equipment with coaches

Program Tournament Coordinator

- solicits interest in tournaments from member families
- forms tournament teams and obtains rosters from registrar
- collects tournament entry fee money from participating families
- applies to tournaments and pays entry fee
- if tournament is hosted at Baierl Ice Complex, work with NPYHA Tournament Director to
 - form divisions
 - schedule games
 - schedule skills competition and equip as necessary
 - prepare volunteer schedule for clock and scorekeeping
 - set locker room schedule
 - ensure referees and EMT are assigned
 - obtain trophies/medals if needed
 - host end-of-tournament medal distribution

Key Contacts at NPYHA

For questions on NPYHA Recreational and Developmental Programs, contact **Cari Kelm**

Director of Hockey Development

hdp@wildcatshockey.net

For questions on the REGISTRATION process, contact **Neal Cerqua**

Registrar

registrar@wildcatshockey.net

For questions on the PAYMENT process, contact **John Skelton**

Treasurer

treasurer@wildcatshockey.net

Good Luck and Go Wildcats!