



PATRIOTS

Youth Hockey Association



NEWSLETTER: June 2024

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Per overwhelming request by membership, registration is open early. You can [register your skaters online](#) through July 15. Registration for travel teams (squirt, peewee, bantam, all-girls U10, U12, U14) includes a \$200 discount until closing on July 15th at 11:59pm. At that time, fees will go up for any skaters registering late as well as possible waitlisting. If you wish to pay by check, Venmo, or PayPal, please use the code OFFLINE at checkout.

We are finalizing the PYHA Handbook and plan to have it available online this week.



DID YOU KNOW

Beginning August 1st, 2024 - USA Hockey will require all youth skaters to wear neck laceration protection when on the ice. This includes all skaters and on-ice officials under the age of 18. Neck guards and neck-protective shirts are available through Pure Hockey and Amazon. This is considered a personal item and will NOT be provided as rental gear through the association. No skater under the age of 18 will be allowed on the ice without neck protection after August 1st.

WE NEED YOUR STUFF

The 40th Anniversary of Patriots Youth Hockey Association is this season! The board is planning events to celebrate this momentous occasion and we need your help. If you or anyone you know has PYHA memorabilia, we would like to display it throughout the season. All items borrowed for display will be returned following the end of the regular season. Please reach out to info@patriotshockey.org for more information on how you can help us this season

OIC UPDATES

The OIC has been hard at work planning for the upcoming season. A few highlights include:

- **Midseason Player Evaluations:** Reviewing the process and procedures for mid-season player evaluations based on feedback from last season.
- **Tournaments and Signature Trips:** Create a tournament plan that delivers enjoyable and valuable experiences for the players.
- **Effective Communication and Hockey Culture:** Use the opportunity of creating a coach's manual to ensure all coaches get an overview of expectations for communication and culture.
- **Unstructured Practice & School Calendars:** Considering the opportunities to have unstructured play during off-school days. This will require further evaluation and elicit feedback from the org membership to determine if there would be interest and enough attendance.

SUMMER TRAINING

Hockey doesn't end with warm weather. There are many opportunities for players to continue to improve their game, even off the ice and in the heat. The OIC has put together a summer training program to keep our players busy and at their best. To help with motivation, the OIC created bronze, silver, and gold levels of commitment. As recognition for the Patriots and Dragons players that do put in the time and effort, we plan to add their names to the glass in the Hartmeyer shooting gallery.

For players to stay committed to improving, here are some easy suggestions:

- Find a friend to train with. That will make it more fun and help set a schedule.
- Talk to your player about setting a schedule with realistic goals and potentially creating your own reward system with your player.

All off-ice training information and tracking can be found on the website: <https://www.patriotshockey.org/summerskills>

DRAGONS UPDATES

Region 4 Girls Showdown – Registration is open, and we are so close to hitting 100 participants! All girls in Region 4 are eligible to participate. August 9-11, 2024 at Verona Ice Arena
[Register your skater online.](#)

Dragons Preseason Pool Party – Celebrate the upcoming season with former, current, and soon to be Dragons! Join us at the Monona Community Pool on Sunday, August 4th from 7 – 9 p.m. Admission is free for Dragons Players, [sign up online.](#)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We have a few open coordinator positions that need to be filled. The following positions are held by members of the organization and report directly to a designated board member. All positions fulfill volunteer credits for the season. If you are interested in any of these positions, please submit a letter of interest and qualifications to the Board of Directors at pyhboard@patriotshockey.org.

Retention and Recruitment Coordinator

The Retention and Recruitment Coordinator will be focused on supporting the continued growth of PYHA. They will work closely with the Communications Manager to draft and administer surveys, work with membership to garner feedback and ideas, and support the Event Committee with events to drive recruitment of new skaters for both co-ed and Dragons. This position reports directly to the Secretary. It is a one-year term that fulfills volunteer credits for the seasons they serve in the position.

Social Media Coordinator

The Social Media Coordinator will be primarily responsible for posting to the PYHA and Dragons Facebook accounts on behalf of the organization. They will work closely with the Communications Manager, Travel Team Managers, and Events/Fundraising Coordinators to maintain an active social media presence. This position reports directly to the Communications Manager. It is a one-year term that fulfills volunteer credits for the seasons they serve in the position.

Website Coordinator

The Website Coordinator handles the management of the PYHA's website. Any content on the website is subject to approval by the President and/or the Board of Directors. This position reports directly to the Communications Manager. It is a one-year term that fulfills volunteer credits for the seasons they serve in the position.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Annual Patriots Golf Outing – There are a handful of spots left for the Annual Golf Outing. Join us Saturday August 3 at [The Oaks Golf Course](#). Cost is \$115 per golfer or \$460 per foursome with all proceeds going towards ice time fees and player sponsorships. [Register online to golf, or if your swing isn't so good, consider sponsoring!](#)

Taste of Madison - Patriots Youth Hockey will be hosting a Beer Stand at Taste of Madison again this year. We have our same station on MLK Jr Blvd & W Main St. To register, [please use the signup genius link](#) and ALSO complete the sign up required thru Taste of Madison that can be found on the sign up genius page. This step must be completed for all volunteers. Credit hours will be applied for the 2024-2025 season once registration is complete and DIBS for the season have been set up.



QUICK HITS

If you still have practice jerseys, please return these as soon as possible! You can reach out to the Jersey Coordinator at jerseys@patriotshockey.org to make arrangements.

Hartmeyer will have open hockey opportunities throughout the summer when ice is available. These are most often held on Wed. 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. and Fri. 1:15 – 2:45 p.m. Cost is \$6 per player, Goalies in full gear are free. Open Hockey is open to ALL AGES. Watch for updates on Facebook or the [MII Open Hockey page on their website](#).

Minutes from the previous month's board meetings are always available online, following approval at the most recent meeting. [Minutes from the May 2024 meeting are now available online](#). The next board meeting will be held **Monday, July 8 at 6 p.m.** at [Oakstone Recreational](#) in Cottage Grove and is open to all members of PYHA.

We always want to hear back from our families. If you have any questions or concerns, you can email them to PYHABoard@patriotshockey.org.

If you are no longer a member of PYHA and would like to be removed from the email list, please visit our [Unsubscribe](#) page for instructions.