

# 2019-2020 SKOKIE FLYERS

## MIDGET U16 & U18 PROGRAM

### PLAYER DEVELOPMENT:

The Midget program is committed to helping individual players develop as athletes, leaders, and members of the community. The Flyers competitive hockey program places an emphasis on excellence in teamwork, discipline, sportsmanship, and character building. Family and education come first; hockey comes second. We understand the importance of how this game shapes individuals' lives. Coach Mejia and Coach Matysiak are dedicated role models in this realm, on and off the ice. From Coach Mejia's and Coach Matysiak's recent playing days, their Junior/College coach and scout network is rather extensive, and they are always looking for opportunities to expose their players to them.

#### Recent Accomplishments:

- NIHL Champions: '17-'18
- NIHL Championship Appearance: '17-'18, '18-'19
- President Cup Champions: '17-'18, 18-'19
- Blackhawk State Tournament Appearances: '17-'18, 18-'19 (the only NIHL team to make it into the round robin)

### Tentative Tournament Dates:

#### NJPHL Showcases

Sept. 20-22 – Chesterfield, MO  
 Oct. 10-12 – Cleveland, OH  
 Dec. 28-30 – Oxford, OH  
 Jan. 10-12 – Ft Wayne, IN

#### Other

Nov. 27- Dec. 1 – Stevenson High School Thanksgiving Invitational (local)

U18 Tryouts are open for 2001 birth years and younger. U16 Tryouts are for 2003 birth year and younger. *NOTE: 2005 birth year players must apply with the Hockey Director to be approved to try-out.*

### ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE

Approximately 50-60 games, including:

- NJPHL Showcase league (16-18 games)
- NIHL League (24-30 games)
- Stevenson High School Thanksgiving Tournament (3 to 5 games)
- State Tournament (1-5 games)
- Non-league Exhibitions (3-5 games)

### COACHING STAFF:

**John Mejia:** A native of Chicago, John is entering his 9th season coaching for the Skokie Flyers. Before coaching, John played four years of Junior hockey in Canada and the United States. A former BCHL, NAHL, MJHL, GLJHL, two-way hockey player, John was not one to shy away from the physicality of the game. John started his hockey career with Skokie and played at the AAA level in Illinois and Wisconsin. John's primary focus is player development and furthering the careers of young hockey players by helping them achieve their dreams of playing hockey at the next level, as he has helped advance over 40 players to Junior or Collegiate levels.

**Jacob Matysiak:** Entering his 5th season with the Skokie Flyers, Jacob's philosophy is centered on player development - on and off the ice - to prepare players for their future beyond the ice rink, to propel Hockey IQ, and to create a team culture that breeds success. Jacob's focus on player development and his attention to detail has helped bring the midget program success. Jacob has assisted in advancing over 20 players to Junior or Collegiate Club levels. Before launching his coaching career, Jacob played two years of Junior in the GLJHL. After a successful Junior career, Jacob went on to play over one hundred games for the University of Illinois ACHA Division I program.

### PRE-TRYOUT CLINICS:

#### August 19th

U16 – 6:35-7:35 p.m.  
 U18 – 7:45-8:45 p.m.

#### August 21st

U16 – 7:45-8:45 p.m.  
 U18 – 8:55-9:55 p.m.

#### August 22nd

U16 – 6:35-7:35 p.m.  
 U18 – 7:45-8:45 p.m.

### TRY-OUT DATES (both U16 & U18):

Date	Time
August 27	9:35-10:35 p.m.
August 28	8:55-10:25 p.m.
September 4	8:55-9:55 p.m.
September 5	8:40-10:00 p.m.
September 6	8:20-9:50 p.m.

*Note: All clinics and try-outs are at the Skatium.*

### SEASON EXPECTATIONS:

- *Practices* – 2 to 3 times a week;
- *Games* – 1 to 2 games a week, excluding tournament or showcase weekends;
- *Off-Ice Training* – First 2 months of the season: Off-Ice 2x a week. Rest of season: Off-Ice 1x a week (all before practices)

*Register for pre-tryout clinics and tryouts at [www.skokieflyers.org](http://www.skokieflyers.org)*