



The Red Line



September 2008

Presidents Message

AYHA is facing tough decisions due to falling enrollment, which the Board is trying to address through an aggressive registration drive. However, the number of kids at established levels (Squirt, Pee Wee and Bantam) is difficult to improve. Based on our projections, we expect to put the following groups on the ice this season:

Termites,
Cross-Ice (Mites)
Mite A, Mite C
Squirt A, Squirt B
Pee Wee A, Pee Wee B
Minor House League
Bantam A
Midget B/C

These are based on our current pre-registration numbers as of September 15 and are subject to change based on participation.

We will once again field a Minor House League. Due to the numbers at the Squirt and Pee Wee levels, all B level players at these levels will participate in the Minor House League, also. This is a win-win situation where the B level players will continue to play at a competitive level and the organization can continue to provide opportunities to players that enjoy the house level of play.

Tryouts

The 2008-2009 Hockey Season is here. This year A and B tryouts are being held together. The following age groups are scheduled to skate this weekend in Clifton Park:

Pee Wee A and B Travel	09/20/08	7:05 pm – 8:05 pm
Squirt A and B Travel	09/21/08	1:40 pm – 2:40 pm
Bantam A and B travel	09/21/08	2:50 pm – 3:50 pm

Please refer to the back of your bill for a complete schedule for the remainder of September and all of October.

All Squirt and Pee Wee level players are encouraged to attend the tryout sessions. The first tryout session at these levels will be \$5. All other sessions are \$10. The interest at these levels will determine the viability of B level travel teams.

Directions to the Clifton Park Ice Arena are as follow:

Take I-87 (Northway) South to Exit 9.

Rt 146 West 2.5 miles to Vischers Ferry Rd. (Traffic Light - Cumberland Farms on corner).

Left onto Vischers Ferry Rd.

Rink is 1/4 mile on Left.

Open Registration and Membership Drive

Registration weekend will be held on September 20th and 21st from 9AM to 3PM. Hope to see you there.

Additionally, an equipment trailer will be available the weekend of October 18 and 19 during Termite and Cross-Ice open skates at the Civic Center to allow kids and parents to try on equipment and get onto the ice. If you know someone that is unsure whether hockey is the right sport for their family, encourage them to show up and try hockey on to see how it fits on them!

Coaching Selection

AYHA is pleased to announce the following candidates have been selected as coaches: Steve Lemay, Pee Wee "A" Travel; Steve Moore, Squirt "A" Travel and Jeff Willis, Mite "A" Travel. The Bantam "A" travel coach selection was delayed initially due to a lack of candidates. However, multiple candidates have applied and the selection process will be completed prior to tryouts.

Equipment Package Deals

Dr. Blades will be offering AYHA a package deal for equipment during registration weekend. The package includes all protective gear and skates by Bauer or Itech for players at the Mite level and younger for the very low price of \$150.

Albany River Rats Game

All AYHA players are invited to skate prior to the River Rats game at the Glens Falls Civic Center on October 17th from 4:30 – 5:30 pm. The Squirt "A" Travel Team will skate during the first intermission. Tickets are on sale through AYHA for \$13 Adult / \$9 Child. Pick up your tickets during registration weekend at the Rec Center, tryouts or contact Carol Nizolek at 745-1523.

Volunteer Hours

The number of volunteer hours will increase this year from six hours per child to eight hours with a maximum number of twenty hours per family. Get your hours in early as the demand in the second half of the season may make it difficult to finish your hours. The fee for unworked hours remains at \$15 per hour this season.

Facility Cleanup

The opportunity to get started on your volunteer hours begins with the Recreation Center Cleanup on Sunday, September 21st from 9AM to 3PM. Join us to prepare the facility for the upcoming season.

Website – www.adkhockey.com

In case you haven't notice the website is being updated frequently with new information and soon we will be going live with our own website. Check it out!