



# THE FACTCAT

July 2014

**Novi Youth Hockey Association**  
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## Inside This Issue

Message from NYHA President ....	1
USA Hockey Registration .....	1
Travel Program .....	2
Learn To Play Hockey .....	2
House Evaluation Schedule .....	3
Conditioning Skates .....	3
Required Equipment .....	4
House League Dues .....	4
F.Y.I. ....	5
Hiller's Programs/Kroger Update...	5
NYHA Free Goalie Clinic .....	5
NYHA Game Day 2013 .....	6

## Add us to your address book:

to ensure that you receive future issues of the NYHA **FactCat** newsletter as well as important e-mails from the Novi Youth Hockey Association, we encourage you to add **info@noviyouthhockey.org** in your e-mail's address book.

Note that some internet service providers (ISPs) treat e-mails that appear as mass e-mails as SPAM. Some of the NYHA's communications may not be getting to you. Adding **info@noviyouthhockey.org** to your address book will ensure that our e-mails get to you.

## Welcome to Novi Youth Hockey!!!

Approximately two years ago, I became the President of our Association. I have been on the NYHA Board of Directors for almost six years, and this will be the eighth season that my son, Ryan, has skated for the NYHA. Ryan played in the house division for four years (as a mini-mite and as a mite) and has been playing on a travel team for the last three years.

In the seven years that Ryan has played hockey, I have had the distinct pleasure of coaching so many incredible kids, and developing wonderful friendships along the way. I have also learned much about the sport of hockey, and about the significance and intensity of competition.

In my opinion, regardless of whether your child skates in the house division or on a travel team, the foundation of youth hockey is all about two fundamental principles: (1) having fun and exciting experience; and (2) developing hockey skills. I mean, why else are we really doing this? We want our kids to have a great experience and we want them to learn an incredibly fun, high-paced sport.

Of course, everyone wants to win games, tournaments and championships. Everyone wants the biggest trophies, the gold medals, and the championship banners. This is basic human nature - and, it makes perfect sense. In fact, I have always said, and will continue to say, that winning is great. The concept of "winning at all costs" is, however, just not acceptable in youth hockey. In other words, while winning is fun and exciting, winning should never compromise the fun and excitement of any players.

Stated another way, if kids are having fun with their team and teammates, they will want to come to the rink, they will want to spend time with their team, and they will want to train and learn more about hockey. If, however, a player is "riding the bench" during games, they are clearly not having fun and they will not be developing any hockey skills. Neither of the fundamental principles is achieved in that scenario.

Coaching a youth hockey team can be filled with so many interesting emotions. It can be exhilarating and thrilling (especially when a player scores their very first goal, or when your team beats a very tough, rival competitor) and it can be very rewarding, as well (such as when a player implements in a game a concept that was recently taught during a practice). It can also be stressful and dramatic, at times. Competition certainly breeds stress and drama. In my experience, however, the excitement and reward far outweigh the stress and drama.

Being a positive role model to young hockey players is one of the most rewarding aspects of coaching. As a coach, you have the opportunity to teach invaluable life lessons to the kids such as discipline, respect, teamwork, and sportsmanship. The lessons that are taught to the kids can be utilized and applied for an entire lifetime.

Also, youth hockey is a terrific opportunity for kids to meet new friends and develop life-long relationships. By way of example, Ryan has played on the same team as his friend, Liam, for the last six years. He has also played with Cody, Jay and Noah for the last five years. During that time, Ryan and his teammates have become amazing friends.

Youth hockey can be an incredible experience, especially for the kids. It is their opportunity to learn an amazing sport and compete with their teammates and coaches, and have a ton of fun at the same time. If the kids are having fun, they will develop their hockey skills at a much faster pace. It is that simple!

So, with that, I would like to officially welcome all of our new players and families to the NYHA, and welcome back all of our returning players and their families. I am always available to answer any questions and address any issues. Just ask.

I very much look forward to seeing everyone at the rink!!  
 Mark B. Berke, President  
 NOVI YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

## Summer To-Do: Register Your Player With USA Hockey

Parents and players need to be aware that USA Hockey requires all players (both House and Travel) to register with USA Hockey directly for the 2014-2015 season.

It is important to note that House players must register with USA Hockey **prior to their on-ice evaluation** with the Novi Youth Hockey Association in August. All players will be required to register online with NYHA at **www.noviyouthhockey.org**, which will include a link to register with USA Hockey and will be necessary to successfully register with NYHA. Travel players should check with their coach about providing proof of registration.

The NYHA has implemented an on-line registration process. For more details and instructions visit our website **www.noviyouthhockey.org**.

The USA Hockey online registration takes about five minutes to complete. Be sure to select the 2014-2015 season during the registration process.

## Note:

There is a USA Hockey fee and a Michigan Amateur Hockey Association (MAHA) fee that you will be asked to pay.



**To All Coaches (House and Travel) IMPORTANT INFO:**  
**Please be aware that there is a NEW CONCUSSION LAW as of last year and we will be keeping you informed with updates as the year progresses.**

## NYHA Travel Hockey Program Update

### Tentative Dues

Division	1st Payment Due Aug 1	2nd Payment Due Sept 15	3rd Payment Due Oct 15	4th Payment Due Nov 15	5th Payment Due Dec 15	Total Dues (Estimated)
Squirt A & AA	\$600	\$600	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$2800
PeeWee A & AA	\$600	\$600	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$2900
Bantam A & AA	\$600	\$600	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$3000

**NOTE:** Dues are based on a 16-player roster.

**Note:**

All players are also subject to a \$175 resident / \$200 non-resident registration fee upon acceptance of an offer to play for NYHA travel. The on-line registration and registration fee are due no later than August 1st.

## Learn To Play Hockey Program

The NYHA in conjunction with Novi Ice Arena is proud to bring our youngest hockey players this great program. Consider this the next step after players have completed a learn to skate program. The focus is on the fundamentals of skating and puck skills. The class is open to players ranging in age from 4 to 11. Players will be divided according to age and skill level. There are two sessions offered.

**Fall Session:**

Saturday, September 6 – Saturday, December 20  
 10:30-11:20am (except for October 4, which is from 12-12:50pm)  
 No classes Sep. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15 and 29

**Winter Session:**

Saturday, January 10 – Saturday, March 28  
 10:30-11:20am

**Price:** \$200 per session or \$350 if you sign up for both sessions at once

**Ages:** 4-11

**To Register:** Please call 248-347-1010 or go to [www.noviicearena.com](http://www.noviicearena.com)

**A great program taught by an extremely qualified individual will teach future players the basic skills of Hockey in a fun environment!**

**All skates are at the Novi Ice Arena**

*Please Note: Players must be current members of USA Hockey to participate (see article on page 1). Refer to the NYHA website at [www.noviyouthhockey.org](http://www.noviyouthhockey.org) for information on how to register for USA Hockey.*



## Novi Youth Hockey Association 2014- 2015 Season

### Conditioning and House Evaluation Skate Schedule



Below is the NYHA House Evaluation and Conditioning Skate Schedule. Conditioning skates are at the player's option, but are a great way to prepare for evaluations. Evaluation skates are held by division and last name of the player (check the evaluation date and time with bolded letters for last names). Each player has two (2) scheduled evaluations.

### Players need to make every attempt to attend both evaluation skates.

IMPORTANT: MUST HAVE AUGUST DUES PAYMENT & NYHA ON-LINE REGISTRATION AT FIRST EVALUATION SKATE! NO PLAYER WILL BE DRAFTED WITHOUT FIRST DUES PAYMENT! ARRIVE AT LEAST 45 MINUTES EARLY TO COMPLETE CHECK-IN AND PAY FEES.

### All conditioning and evaluation sessions are at the Novi Ice Arena

#### Mini-Mite Division—2008 & 2009 Birth Years

##### Conditioning Skate (\$10) - OPTIONAL

1 hr. Conditioning SUN Aug. 3 12:00-1:00pm

##### Evaluation Skates - REQUIRED

Evaluation A-L THU Aug. 7 5:00-6:00pm

Evaluation M-Z THU Aug. 7 6:00-7:00pm

Evaluation A-L THU Aug. 14 6:00-7:00pm

Evaluation M-Z THU Aug. 14 5:00-6:00pm

#### Mite Division—2006 & 2007 Birth Years

##### Conditioning Skate (\$10) - OPTIONAL

1 hr. Conditioning SUN Aug. 3 1:00-2:00pm

##### Evaluation Skates-REQUIRED

Evaluation A-L TUE Aug. 5 6:30-7:30pm

Evaluation M-Z TUE Aug. 5 7:30-8:30pm

Evaluation A-L TUE Aug. 12 7:30-8:30pm

Evaluation M-Z TUE Aug. 12 6:30-7:30pm

#### Squirt Division—2004 & 2005 Birth Years

##### Conditioning Skate (\$15) - OPTIONAL

1.5 hr. Conditioning SUN Aug. 3 2:00-3:30pm

##### Evaluation Skates - REQUIRED

Evaluation A-L MON Aug. 4 6:00-7:00pm

Evaluation M-Z MON Aug. 4 7:00-8:00pm

Evaluation A-L MON Aug. 11 7:00-8:00pm

Evaluation M-Z MON Aug. 11 6:00-7:00pm

#### FREE GOALIE CLINIC!

THU Aug. 21 at 6:00pm-7:30pm

All registered NYHA House goalies and those interested in trying out for this position are invited to experience the fun!  
Sign up during Evaluations!

#### PeeWee Division—2002 & 2003 Birth Years

##### Conditioning Skate (\$15 Each) - OPTIONAL

1.5 hr. Conditioning SUN Aug. 3 3:30-5:00pm

##### Evaluation Skates - REQUIRED

Evaluation A-L THU Aug. 7 7:00-8:30pm

Evaluation M-Z THU Aug. 7 8:30-10:00pm

Evaluation A-L THU Aug. 14 8:30-10:00pm

Evaluation M-Z THU Aug. 14 7:00-8:30pm

#### Bantam Division—2000 & 2001 Birth Years

##### Conditioning Skate (\$15 Each) - OPTIONAL

1.5 hr. Conditioning SUN Aug. 3 5:00-6:30pm

##### Evaluation Skates - REQUIRED

Evaluation A-L WED Aug. 6 7:00-8:30pm

Evaluation M-Z WED Aug. 6 8:30-10:00pm

Evaluation A-L WED Aug. 13 8:30-10:00pm

Evaluation M-Z WED Aug. 13 7:00-8:30pm

#### Midget B Division—1998 & 1999 Birth Years

##### Conditioning Skate (\$15 Each) - OPTIONAL

1.5 hr. Conditioning SUN Aug. 3 6:30-8:00pm

##### Evaluation Skates - REQUIRED

Evaluation A-Z TUE Aug. 5 8:30-10:00pm

#### Midget BB Division—1996 & 1997 Birth Years

##### Conditioning Skates (\$15 Each)- OPTIONAL

1.5 hr. Conditioning SUN Aug. 3 6:30-8:00pm

##### Evaluation Skate- REQUIRED

Evaluation A-Z TUE Aug. 5 8:30-10:00pm

**FYI: Please Keep Numbered Evaluation Sticker for BOTH Evaluation Skates**

NOT ATTENDING ANY EVALUATION SKATE PLACES A PLAYER AT A SIGNIFICANT DISADVANTAGE IN THE DRAFT

## Required Equipment

Full protective ice hockey equipment is required for all NYHA players. Roller hockey equipment is not acceptable.

**All players require the following:**

- **Helmet with full face guard**
- **Mouth guard**
- **Neck guard**
- **Protective cup and supporter**
- **Shoulder and shin pads**
- **Hockey socks, hockey pants, gloves, stick, and skates**

Neck guards and mouth guards are **mandated by the NYHA** and are required every time an NYHA team takes the ice.

Additionally, if a player wants to be evaluated as a goalie, the following equipment is required: goalie pads, chest protector, and trapper/blocker. (At the Mini-Mite, Mite, and Squirt levels, the NYHA provides each team with a set of goalie-specific equipment.)

**If your player requires goalie equipment for evaluation purposes-please contact**

**Kevin Williams at [KWilliams@noviyouthhockey.org](mailto:KWilliams@noviyouthhockey.org).**

### Players Cannot Request to Play for a Specific Coach

The NYHA recommends that if there is a specific coach with whom you do not wish your child to be drafted by that you speak with the Coach directly and inform him of your wishes.

The Coach List for the 2014-2015 season will be posted on the NYHA website during Evaluations.

## Tentative House Dues and Payment Dates

On the date of your first evaluation skate (see Enclosed Schedule), prior to going on the ice, please check in near the Novi Arena lobby 45 minutes prior to your ice time. Each player will receive an Evaluation Number, needed for both evaluation sessions (this will adhere to the back of the jersey). **Please be sure to keep this number adhered to your jersey until after the second evaluation skate.**

House dues for the 2014-2015 season will be divided into four installments. The first payment is due at the first August evaluation skate. Remaining payments are due per the schedule below and collected by your team manager.

**The first installment of dues must be paid before the player participates in the evaluation.**

This payment schedule is determined based on the cash flow requirements needed to cover the Association's commitments, particularly the purchases of ice and jerseys early in the season. The NYHA accepts Checks/Cash only for Evaluation Skates. Only one check per player. Make checks payable to 'NYHA' and place the player's name on the check memo field.

Final dues will be set when the number of participants are known and the ice contracts and allocations are completed. The final dues schedule will be published on the NYHA website after the October Board meeting.

*\*For Midgets, the entire season's dues are payable in two installments. These dues are tentative and will be re-evaluated based on the number of participants and ice assigned.*

**Bring To Your First August Evaluation Skate:**

- **Player's USA Hockey 2014-2015 Registration (confirmation page)**
- **Check made payable to: NYHA with player's name in the "memo" field (only ONE CHECK per player)**

**The alternate evaluation time for all divisions is:  
Monday, August 18th from 5:00-6:00 PM.**

If you cannot attend either of the evaluation skates, you must contact the NYHA by July 29 to be 'scheduled' into the alternate evaluation at [info@noviyouthhockey.org](mailto:info@noviyouthhockey.org).

Your first payment is due at that time.

**NOT ATTENDING ANY EVALUATION SKATE PLACES A PLAYER AT A SIGNIFICANT DISADVANTAGE IN THE DRAFT**

	1st pymt.	2nd pymt.	3rd pymt.	4th pymt.	
<u>Division</u>	<u>Due Eval Skate</u>	<u>Due Oct. 15</u>	<u>Due Nov. 15</u>	<u>Due Dec. 15</u>	<u>Est.Dues</u>
<b>Mini-Mite</b>	\$300	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$680
<b>Mite</b>	\$350	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$890
<b>Squirt</b>	\$400	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$1470
<b>PeeWee</b>	\$450	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$1505
<b>Bantam</b>	\$550	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$1720
<b>Midget B</b>	\$865 Due at Evaluation and \$855 Due October 1st*				
<b>Midget BB</b>	\$865 Due at Evaluation and \$855 Due October 1st*				
*Midgets must be paid in full by October 1st					



## F.Y.I. - For Your Information

### Hiller's Community Rewards Program

This program allows you to earn dollars towards your Novi Youth Hockey dues by making purchases at any participating Hillers. Rewards earned this season apply to the 2015-2016 season. The Scrip Program is now called Community Rewards. Please visit [www.hillers.com](http://www.hillers.com) to register your card and choose the community ( NYHA ) that you would like your points to be redeemed for.

### Kroger's Community Rewards

Please note that, effective 10/01/2012, the NYHA has suspended the Kroger rewards program due to administrative changes at Kroger's. These changes prevent the tracking of rewards back to the spenders or their designate. Per the directives of Kroger's, earned funds cannot be utilized by individual members. Instead, any funds that are earned by NYHA members are utilized by the NYHA for the benefit of the association.

### Girls Hockey At Novi!

The NYHA is continuing to work on developing a girls hockey program. The NYHA hosted a Girls Hockey Clinic last year and may be offering a similar clinic in the fall. More information about girls hockey can be found on the NYHA website.

### High School Mentoring

Members of the varsity teams from the Northville High School and Novi High School will spend time during the season with our teams to share hockey skills with our players.

### NYHA Funding For Professional Training

The NYHA Board allocates a professional training allowance to House teams aimed at enhancing both the skills of the players and developing better coaches along the way. Funding includes a generous allowance for mini-mite through bantam teams.



### PuckMasters Hockey Training For Mites, Squirts and Pee Wees

Puckmasters hockey training is proud to be aligned with the Novi

Youth Hockey Association again for the 2014-2015 season. More specific information will be provided to the teams once the training has been determined.

## Free NYHA Goalie Clinic

Chris Izzi will be hosting a **FREE** clinic for goalies who are registered with the NYHA. Chris played club hockey at Western Michigan University and also played minor league hockey in the Colonial Hockey League for the Saginaw Lumber Kings. He has also been actively coaching youth goalies for the last four years.

*If interested, please send a confirming email to [info@noviyouthhockey.org](mailto:info@noviyouthhockey.org) by August 18th. Please include goalie's name, age and experience.*

All registered NYHA goalies are welcome and encouraged to attend. The clinic will be conducted at the Novi Ice Arena and is limited to 20 goalies. Placement is on a first come, first serve basis.

**Thursday - August 21st (ice time is 6:00-7:20pm)**  
**Please arrive in time to be fully dressed and on the ice at 6:00pm SHARP!**  
**Off Ice Instruction will follow at:**  
**7:45pm-8:15pm in the Conference Room**  
**Refreshments Served!**



### Websites To Bookmark

[www.noviyouthhockey.org](http://www.noviyouthhockey.org)

[www.lcahl.org](http://www.lcahl.org)

[www.usahockey.com](http://www.usahockey.com)

[www.maha.org](http://www.maha.org)

[www.arenamaps.com](http://www.arenamaps.com)

[www.noviicearena.com](http://www.noviicearena.com)

### You're Invited!!!

To Our  
**CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY**  
 Novi Ice Arena  
 Tuesday,  
 August 5, 2014  
 5:00pm-9:00pm  
 Free Food!!

**Free Sticks and Pucks!!**

**Free Open Skating!!!**

**GAMES and Prizes!!**

**AAE Spirit Wear On Sale!!**

**Famous Photo On Site!!**

**BRING A FRIEND  
 AND YOUR  
 SKATES!!!**

### NYHA Mission Statement

*The NYHA Organization is committed to cultivating and developing youths in the sport of Ice Hockey. This is achieved through dedicated volunteers teaching and improving hockey skills in an atmosphere that promotes good sportsmanship. This model provides each and every person within the Novi Youth Hockey Association, the opportunity to learn, grow and enjoy the game of hockey.*

**Your Preseason Edition of the NYHA FactCat has Arrived!!!**

**Another Season of Exciting Hockey is Right Around The Corner...**

**Look inside for:**

- House League Evaluation Schedules
- Conditioning Skate Times
- Customer Appreciation Day
- 'Learn To Play Hockey' Program
- FREE Goalie Clinic!

**Please Donate your Used HOCKEY  
Equipment to the NYHA -  
Collection Bins are located near the  
NYHA Office in the Novi Ice Arena**

**Novi Game Day 2014**

***Mark Your Calendars!!***

In 2002, the NYHA started a tradition. The goal was to celebrate hockey for the love of the game. The NYHA Game Day has emerged as one of the key events on the Michigan hockey calendar. Game Day brings every player in the NYHA family to the rink on one day. Hockey games, contests, vendor booths, mascots, and celebrations of all types highlight this much anticipated event. Mark your calendars and plan to be there. You won't want to miss it!!

**TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1st!  
Volunteers are needed!**

If interested, please contact Joy Orlich at  
[jorlich@NoviYouthHockey.org](mailto:jorlich@NoviYouthHockey.org)



Return to:

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