

**BUTLER VALLEY
DAWGS**



**PLAYER
& PARENT
GUIDE
2017-18**

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Since 1994, the Butler Valley Youth Hockey Association (BVYHA) has been providing the region's youth with fun and competitive experience. The organization has always been committed to nurturing the growth of ice hockey in an environment that promotes good sportsmanship, teamwork and fun.

The organization provides instruction to boys and girls of all skill levels through the Butler Valley Dawgs Hockey Program. The Butler Valley Youth Hockey Association is a proud member of the Pittsburgh Amateur Hockey League (PAHL), the Mid American Hockey Association (MIDAM) and the USA Hockey Association.

Starting with the developmental (ADM) level up to the U18, Butler Valley strives to put together strong teams of skilled players.

Team Structure

For the 2017-18 season, BVYHA intends to group top players into birth year teams for the Bantam age level (2003 and 2004).

All other age groups (Squirt, Pee Wee and Midget) BVYHA will group top players into a mixed level of birth years.

PLEASE NOTE THAT BUTLER VALLEY MAY FORM MIXED BIRTH YEAR TEAMS IN PLACE OF BIRTH YEAR TEAMS IF THE BIRTH YEAR MODEL IS NOT DEEMED VIABLE IN AN AGE GROUP

The decision to form birth year teams will depend on the number of players registered within each specific birth year, as well as the skill level of the top players in the birth year.

For competitive purposes, PAHL groups local teams into divisions by skill level. BVYHA teams are selected to PAHL divisions via the PAHL placement process using player data and the results of a few preseason matches. Placement of our teams will be determined by PAHL.

Professional Hockey Instruction

Butler Valley provides professional instruction opportunities to all BVYHA teams throughout the season. This instruction includes both skating, skill development and goaltending. The Director of Coaching oversees the vendors providing instruction.

TRY-OUT PROCESS

Butler Valley will hold tryouts at the Frozen Pond of Pittsburgh, located in Valencia, PA.

Birth Year For Try-Outs 2017-18 Season	
ADM/Mite	2009 & Younger
Squirt (U10)	2007 & 2008
Pee Wee (U12)	2005 & 2006
Bantam (U14)	2003 & 2004
Midget (U16 & U18)	2002 and Older

All players are scored on their fundamental skills and then again in game situations. Each player will receive scores from several different evaluators. It is based on these scores that we choose our teams. The tryout process runs over a period of several days for each level to provide a fair and equitable timeline for all participants.

WHAT TO DO - TRYOUT PROCEDURES

REGISTRATION

- Obtain a 2017-18 USA Hockey number. That registration will open on April 1st at <http://www.usahockeyregistration.com>. There is a cost associated with this registration.
- With your USAH number, go to (www.bvdawgshockey.com) and click on the Try Out tab along the top of the menu bar and follow the instructions for registration. All players have the option of paying by check or credit card for the try out and commitment fees. All players must register via the website – payments by check will still be accepted prior to taking the ice on the first night of try-outs.
- Our registration system is provided by Sports Engine. You must have a Sports Engine 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 BVYHA, you may need to create a new ID and password.

REGISTRATION FEES

All prior season balances must be paid in full before a player may be permitted to tryout.

A \$125.00 registration fee and a \$300.00 commitment fee will be collected before the first tryout session. This will be done either by an online credit card payment or via two (2) checks made out to BVYHA due at check-in on the first night of try outs.

- ❖ The \$125.00 registration fee is non-refundable.
- ❖ If a player is offered a position on one of Butler Valley's travel teams and accepts by 11:00pm on *April 24th, 2017 for 2003 and 2004 Birth Year and April 31st, 2017 for all other travel teams*, the \$300.00 commitment fee will be applied to the season's tuition.

- ❖ If a player is offered a position on one of Butler Valley's travel teams and declines the position before *April 24th, 2017 for 2003 and 2004 Birth Year and April 31st, 2017 for all other travel teams*, the \$300.00 commitment fee will be refunded.

- ❖ If a player is offered a position on one of Butler Valley's travel teams and no response is given before 11:00pm on *April 24th, 2017 for 2003 and 2004 Birth Year and April 31st, 2017 for all other travel teams*, the \$300.00 commitment fee will not be refunded.

- ❖ If the player is not offered a position, the \$300.00 commitment fee will be refunded.

FIRST DAY/SESSION OF TRY-OUTS

- Arrive in plenty of time to check in and change.

- If your player is new to Butler Valley, please bring a copy of the player's birth certificate.

- Bring a printed copy of your 2016-17 USA Hockey Registration

- If you have not utilized the online payment system, you will need to bring 2 checks, one for the administrative cost (\$125) and the other for the commitment fee (\$300). The checks need to be made out to BVYHA.

- Make sure to bring both one (1) white and one (1) dark jersey to every session. Jerseys must be unmarked--no names and no logos of any PAHL, PIHL, AAU or Tier 1 teams.

- You will be given a pin-on number to be used each night of tryouts. Place the number on the assigned jersey color to be worn for tryouts each night. **Please retain this number as this is how your player will be referenced throughout the tryout process.**

After the first session, please check the website www.bvdawgshockey.com to determine your next tryout time.

AFTER TRYOUTS

Several days after tryouts are over, the team information will be made available on the Butler Valley website (www.bvdawgshockey.com). The information will be posted using tryout numbers – not names - please remember your player's number.

You will be sent a “made the team” e-mail which will give you further instruction to complete your registration process and accept your team position.

The deadline to accept your team position will be *April 24th, 2017 for 2003 and 2004 Birth Year and April 31st, 2017 for all other travel teams*. After this time, your offer may be revoked.

TUITION

Butler Valley tuition costs cover expenses occurred for practices, pre-season and league games. This includes ice-time, professional instruction and regular season game fees.

Uniform & Equipment Costs

Uniform and player equipment costs are not included in tuition. The required Butler Valley uniform is 1 home game jersey (white), 1 visitor game jersey (black), 1 black pant shell, 1 pair home socks (white), and 1 pair away socks (black). Uniform costs do not include warm-up suits or other BVYHA-branded apparel or equipment. You will receive more uniform details and ordering information after tryouts have concluded.

2017-2018 SEASON FEES

Mite/ADM

Commitment Fee	1 st Payment (by 9/15)	2 nd Payment (by 10/15)	3 rd Payment (by 11/15)	Total 2017-18 Tuition
\$300	\$200	\$200	\$125	\$825

Squirt (U10, Birth Year & Mixed)

Commitment Fee	1 st Payment (by 9/15)	2 nd Payment (by 10/15)	3 rd Payment (by 11/15)	Total 2017-18 Tuition
\$300	\$400	\$400	\$385	\$1485

Pee Wee (U12, Birth Year & Mixed)

Commitment Fee	1 st Payment (by 9/15)	2 nd Payment (by 10/15)	3 rd Payment (by 11/15)	Total 2017-18 Tuition
\$300	\$400	\$400	\$385	\$1485

Bantam (U14, Birth Year & Mixed)

Commitment Fee	1 st Payment (by 9/15)	2 nd Payment (by 10/15)	3 rd Payment (by 11/15)	Total 2017-18 Tuition
\$300	\$435	\$400	\$400	\$1535

U16

Commitment Fee	1 st Payment (by 9/15)	2 nd Payment (by 10/15)	3 rd Payment (by 11/15)	Total 2017-18 Tuition
\$300	\$435	\$400	\$400	\$1535

U18

Commitment Fee	1 st Payment (by 9/15)	2 nd Payment (by 10/15)	3 rd Payment (by 11/15)	Total 2017-18 Tuition
\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$1200

Please remember that this fee does not cover uniforms (socks, jerseys), equipment or team fees for tournaments, etc.

As an option to sending a check to the treasurer, you may opt to pay your registration, commitment and tuition online. There will be a 2.89% convenience fee and a \$1.50 transaction fee applied at time of payment for all online payments. Check our web site for a link to make your commitment fee payment online.

Discounts and Refund Information

Goalie Discount

A 50% Goalie discount will be granted for any player that dresses, using their own equipment, for a minimum of eight (8) PAHL games as a goalie for a BVYHA travel team (excluding ADM).

NOTE: No other discount applies and there are a maximum of two Goal Tender discounts allotted per team.

EXCEPTION: An exception to this rule will be granted to any goaltender that has 2 or more siblings also playing for BV. The family would receive both the goalie discount and an additional \$150 discount.

Multiple Player Family Discounts

One (1) \$200.00 discount will be given per family with two players skating for BVYHA travel teams.

One (1) \$350.00 discount will be given per family with three or more players skating for BVYHA travel teams.

Discounts including ADM players will be \$100 less than stated above.

NOTES: Players must live in the same household to qualify for the Multiple Player discounts.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

Throughout the season parents are offered the opportunities to decrease their hockey tuition costs. Some opportunities are league wide, such as sales of coupon books and others are available through the individual teams.

Butler Valley also participates in the Aramark Program. Through this program, participants work at Pittsburgh Pirate games to reduce their BVYHA 2017-18 hockey tuition. Policies and registration information is available on the Butler Valley website.

PLAYER WAIVERS & PARENTAL CODE OF CONDUCT

The parents of any player who accepts a position on a Butler Valley hockey team will be required to sign a season waiver in order to participate on the team. Also, all parents are required to sign the USA Hockey Code of Conduct, included in Try Out registration and also found on the Butler Valley website.

PHOTOGRAPHY RELEASE

Parents are asked to accept a release form (at online registration) for their players to be included in photographs taken through the year. This release allows Butler Valley to utilize the player images in the monthly newsletter and in local news articles.

WHO TO CONTACT

If you have any questions or concerns during the try-out process, please contact one of the following individuals:

Rob Bowers, President	bvpresident@outlook.com
Dan Waters, Vice President	ddh2os@yahoo.com
Jim Halliday, <i>Director of Coaching</i>	jim@drylandacademy.org
Amy Bowers, <i>Treasurer</i>	bvtreasurer@live.com
Michele Bianco, <i>Secretary</i>	teambianco@comcast.net
Mary Folmer, <i>Communications</i>	bvhockeynews@zoominternet.net
Stephenie Swisher, <i>Registrar</i>	swisherstephenie@gmail.com
Greg Sarachine, <i>Scheduler</i>	sarachineg@zoominternet.net
Buck McKee, <i>Past President</i>	mckeebuck@yahoo.com