



# For Immediate Release

## ICE DOGS INTRODUCE NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART TIER II PROGRAM Big Changes Announced for the 2018-2019 Season

**Hatfield, PA (February 27, 2018):** The Ice Dogs Youth Hockey Organization, a Tier II club, today announced major renovations to their program. Over the past season, the Executive Board has been hard at work analyzing their current program and working with consultants in the hockey industry to upgrade the program for the upcoming season.

First, the Executive Board made significant personnel changes. Kerri Lehrhaupt was appointed to the Board as the Vice President. Kerri has had a player in the Ice Dogs organization for the past 8 seasons and has both a strong hockey and business background. Kerri heads up the Coaching Committee and has been leading the Ice Dogs program renovation, from an executive and player development perspective. Kerri grew up in a hockey system run by USA Hockey Hall of Fame Coach, Bill Belisle, who has sent numerous players to the NHL, including Brian Lawton, Garth Snow, Brian Berard, Keith Carney and Brian Boucher.

Finally, the Board also has welcomed Duane Brobst back to the Ice Dogs organization. Duane has had great success in the organization as a coach, having won numerous Atlantic District and DVHL titles. Duane has been appointed to the role of Vice President of the Midget Division and will also work with the other Divisional VPs on redefining their roles to ensure that coaches and parents are well connected to the Executive Board.

Aside from the changes to the Executive Board, other personnel changes are making a positive impact on the club. Eric Defelice has been hired as the new Director of Player Development. Eric played for CB West and then for Salem State University. He played Junior Hockey (GOJHL) for the Thorold Blackhawks. He made his coaching debut with the Ice Dogs in the 2017-2018 season with the Bantam A National team and quickly demonstrated that he was an asset to the club. He has been working closely with the Board, the ACE Coordinator and other consultants to redefine the club's player development system and is working to optimize practice ice across all divisions for the upcoming seasons. Eric will be an on-ice presence in practices and camps, clinics and other programs.

The 2018-2019 season will also see the return of Tom Laessig to the Ice Dogs. Most recently, Tom was the head coach of the Lehigh University Mountain Hawks. Tom won the 18AA National Championship with the Ice Dogs in 2011 (this was the first ever national title for the DVHL and the first Atlantic



District Champion since 1999). Tom also coached the Valley Forge Minutemen to a bronze medal in the Tier I National Tournament. The Ice Dogs are thrilled to have Tom back on the bench with the 2018-2019 18AA squad.

With Tom Laessig heading up the 18AA team, the Ice Dogs have really solidified their coaching staff for next season. The lineup of AA coaches is truly exciting:

18U AA: Tom Laessig  
16U AA: Ken Doak  
14U AA: Eric Defelice  
12U AA: Chris Orlando  
10U AA: Nick Kaminsky

In fact, coaching at all levels is extremely strong and will be announced over the next week.

With all of the changes to the Ice Dogs Program for the upcoming season, the club is projecting record growth in membership numbers.

Ice Dogs Youth Hockey, Inc. is a non-profit organization, operating out of Hatfield, Pennsylvania. The Ice Dogs are a member of the Delaware Valley Hockey League (DVHL) and the Eastern Junior Elite Prospects League (EJEPL). They sponsor Tier II travel ice hockey teams from the Mite (8U) to Midget level (18U) plus exclusive girls-only teams. The club is governed by seven volunteer members that comprise the Executive Board. The organization is operated by the Executive Board as well as Committee Members, Coaches and Managers.

For more information, contact:

Kerri Lehrhaupt  
Ice Dogs Vice President  
[kerri123@gmail.com](mailto:kerri123@gmail.com)  
215.272.2050



# Ice Dogs Youth Hockey

Introduces a  
**NEW PROGRAM**  
for 2018-2019

Check out what's **NEW!!!**



## What's New for 2018-2019?

In addition to team practices, Ice Dogs players will participate in a number of specially designed camps, clinics and programs to ensure that at each age level and at each division, players are developing throughout the season.

These new features come **at no additional cost** and include:

- **Skills clinics** organized by birth year during the summer months to accelerate readiness for the season
- **3-Day Ice Dogs Training Camp** in August to prime our players for opening weekend
- **Monthly age-specific skills sessions** throughout the regular season to maximize player development
- **End-of-Season Transition Program** to prepare players for the next level of play

In addition to these new offerings, the Ice Dogs will continue to provide our exclusive programs including:

- **Power Skating** Instruction for Mite through PeeWee
- All New Hockey **Strength & Conditioning** off-Ice Program
- **Elite, Professional Goalie Coaching:** Including a welcome clinic, 1-week summer camp and in-season training sessions
- **20% discount** for designated goalies
- **20% discount** for families with multiple players (Most expensive player pays full tuition, each subsequent player gets 20% off their tuition amount)



## **BIG CHANGES** have been made to the Ice Dogs club for the upcoming season and we are very excited to introduce you to our new, state-of-the-art, **Tier II program!**

The Ice Dogs organization began in 2001. Over the past 17 years our membership has continued to grow and currently there are 20 teams with over 300 players. We place teams in the **DVHL** from Mite (8U) to Midget (18U) and invite our AA-level teams to participate in the **EJEPL**.

Ice Dogs Teams have continued a winning tradition over the last decade. There have been Ice Dogs teams at **Nationals** every year from 2006 to 2017. With a proven track record as one of the most successful hockey development programs in the Mid-Atlantic Region, our coaches have helped current and former players reach their maximum potential with players moving on to success at: HS Varsity, ACHA, Junior A, NCAA Division I, II & III, NE Boarding Schools, USHL, NAHL, AHL & the NHL!

This year our coaching staff continues to include Nationally Ranked coaches and we can't wait to see what the 2018-2019 season brings!

This season, our program features can be summarized as follows:

	CO-ED TEAMS						
Age	8U	10U	12U	14U	15 PURE	16U	18U
Birth Year	2010 – 2013	2008 & 2009	2006 & 2007	2004 & 2005	2003 ONLY	2002 & 2003	2000 & 2001
Games	20+	50+	50+	50+	30+	30+	30+
Practices	50+	60+	60+	60+	30+	30+	30+
Tuition	\$1350	\$2340	\$2340	\$2340	\$2210	\$2210	\$2210



## Evaluation Dates & Times

### **8U (Mites):**

Monday, March 26: 5-6 PM

Wednesday, March 28: 5-6 PM

### **10U (Squirts):**

Monday, March 26: 6:10-7:25 PM

Tuesday, March 27: 6:10-7:25 PM

Wednesday, March 28: 6:10-7:25 PM

### **12U (PeeWee):**

Monday, March 26: 7:40-8:55 PM

Tuesday, March 27: 7:40-8:55 PM

Wednesday, March 28: 7:40-8:55 PM

**Please register  
online at:**

[icedogshockey.org](http://icedogshockey.org)

### **14U (Bantam):**

Monday, April 16: 6:00-7:15 PM

Tuesday, April 17: 6:00-7:15 PM

Thursday, April 19: 6:00-7:15 PM

### **16U (Midget 16) & 15 PURE:**

Monday, April 16: 7:30-9:00 PM

Tuesday, April 17: 7:30-9:00 PM

Thursday, April 19: 7:30-9:00 PM

### **18U (Midget 18):**

Monday, April 16: 9:15-10:45 PM

Tuesday, April 17: 9:14-10:45 PM



## Additional Information

All evaluations for the 2018-2019 season will take place at **Hatfield Ice**:

Hatfield Ice  
350 County Line Road  
Colmar, PA 18915

Players **MUST** arrive for evaluations **at least 60 minutes prior to the evaluation time** listed. Each player must check in and will be assigned a numbered evaluation jersey to be used throughout the evaluation process. Players **may not wear personal jerseys** during the evaluations.

All **registrations MUST be completed prior to arrival at the rink** for evaluations. Registration fees will be collected online at the time of registration. All registration fees are **non-refundable**.

New players will be required to **purchase both a home and away Ice Dogs jersey, hockey shell and hockey socks**. These fees are not included in the tuition amount. Returning players must ensure that jerseys, shell and socks are in good condition and should be replaced if necessary. An equipment ordering night will take place after evaluations so that these orders can be placed and gear will arrive prior to the start of the fall season.

In order to play for the Ice Dogs, a **valid USA Hockey registration is required**. While current registrations are valid until August 2018, the Ice Dogs require players to update their registrations by June 1, 2018. The updated registration is required for players to be rostered on their assigned teams.

Ice Dog parents and players will be required to abide by the rules and regulations of the club, the DVHL and USA Hockey. **Signed Code of Conduct agreements are mandatory** for parents and players.

Any additional questions should be directed to:

Kerri Lehrhaupt  
Ice Dogs Vice President  
[kerri123@gmail.com](mailto:kerri123@gmail.com)  
215.272.2050