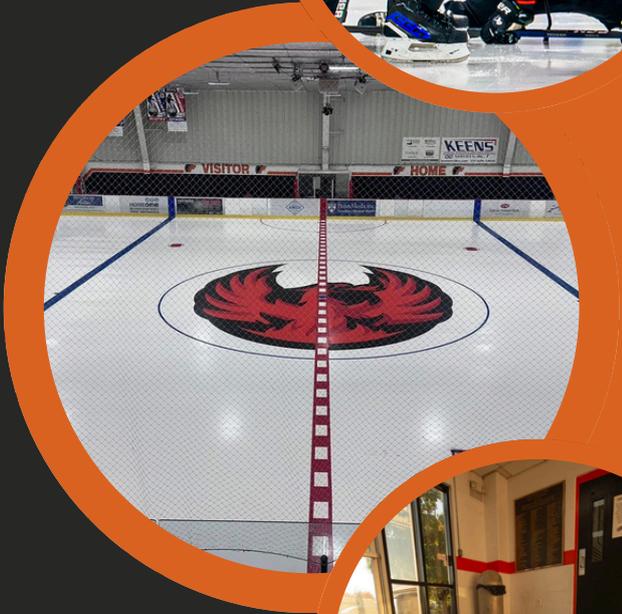


Lancaster Ice Rink
HOME OF THE
FIREBIRDS



2026

Lancaster Firebirds

Be a Bird.



TRAVEL HOCKEY
TIER 2
BROCHURE



www.lancastericerink.org



ABOUT US

General Information

Lancaster County Youth Amateur Hockey League (LCY AHL)

The Lancaster Firebirds and Lancaster Ice Rink are owned and operated by the Lancaster County Youth Amateur Hockey League (LCY AHL) which is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Our mission is to provide a safe, competitive, and supportive environment where young athletes can grow through hockey by building skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

Formed in 1971, the LCY AHL is one of only a handful of non-profit organizations in the entire country that owns and operates both an ice rink and youth hockey club for the sole benefit of the local community offering year-round programs, clinics, and community events



USA Hockey



USA Hockey is the national governing body for ice hockey in the United States. The Lancaster Firebirds are a member of USA Hockey through its affiliate the Atlantic Amateur Hockey Association (AAHA). The club adheres to all USA Hockey regulations, policies, and procedures. The Lancaster Firebirds player development program follows USA Hockey's American Development Model (ADM) guidelines.

Atlantic Hockey Federation



The Atlantic Hockey Federation ("AHF") is a USA Hockey Sanctioned Elite Tier-II Youth Hockey League that facilitates games throughout the Mid-Atlantic while trying to lower costs for its club members and families. The AHF has over 250 teams in the league providing high quality competition at every age group and level.



For this season:

- Free goalie tuition*
- No tuition or uniform increases
- Raffle ticket fundraiser included in cost
- Summer practices

Player Development Program



TYKE-6U (BIRTH YEAR 2020 AND LATER)

- Two weekly 60-minute skill-development practices until end of team season
- Full AHF Schedule
 - 24 games - including one showcase
- 10 total home game slots
- Raffle Tickets
- No Charge Public Skate Sessions

MITE - 8U - HALF ICE (BIRTH YEAR 2018/2019)

- Two weekly 60-minute skill-development practices until end of team season
- Full AHF Schedule
 - 24 games - including one showcase
- 10 total home game slots
- Raffle Tickets
- No Charge Public Skate Sessions

SQUIRT- 10U (BIRTH YEAR 2016/2017)

- Three weekly 60-minute skill-development practices until end of team season
- Pre-season Weekend Training Camp (3 hours on-ice) under direction of team coaching staff
- Full AHF Schedule
 - 36 games - including 2 showcases
- 14 total home game slots
- Raffle Tickets
- No Charge Public Skate Sessions

PEEWEE - 12U (BIRTH YEAR 2014/2015)

- Three weekly 60-minute skill-development practices until end of team season
- Pre-season Weekend Training Camp (3 hours on-ice) under direction of team coaching staff
- Full AHF Schedule
 - 36 games - including 2 showcases
 - (3 showcases at AA level)
- 14 total home game slots
- Raffle Tickets
- No Charge Public Skate Sessions

Three weekly practices are subject to the availability of ice time allocated to Firebird teams. If the number of teams exceeds the maximum available slots, all teams will move to two weekly practices.



For this season:

- Free goalie tuition*
- No tuition or uniform increases
- Raffle ticket fundraiser included in cost
- Summer practices

Player Development Program



BANTAM- 14U (BIRTH YEAR 2012/2013)

- Three weekly 60-minute skill-development practices until end of team season
- Pre-season Weekend Training Camp (3 hours on-ice) under direction of team coaching staff
- Full AHF Schedule
 - 36 games -including 2 showcases
 - (3 showcases at AA level)
- 14 total home game slots
- Raffle Tickets
- No Charge Public Skate Sessions

MIDGET MINOR- 16U (BIRTH YEAR 2010/2011)

- Three weekly 60-minute skill-development practices (August-October)
- Two weekly practices (November -February)
- Pre-season Weekend Training Camp (3 hours on-ice) under direction of team coaching staff
- Full AHF Schedule
 - 36 games -including 2 showcases
 - (3 showcases at AA level)
- 14 total home game slots
- Raffle Tickets
- No Charge Public Skate Sessions

MIDGET MAJOR- 18U (BIRTH YEAR 2008/2009)

- Two weekly 60-minute skill-development practices (August-October)*
- Weekly practices (November -February)
- Pre-season Weekend Training Camp (3 hours on-ice) under direction of team coaching staff
- Full AHF Schedule
 - 36 games -including 2 showcases
 - (3 showcases at AA level)
- 14 total home game slots
- Raffle Tickets
- No Charge Public Skate Sessions

*Depending on availability, 18A team may be offered three time slots at 16A price point

**Three weekly practices are subject to the availability of ice time allocated to Firebird teams.
If the number of teams exceeds the maximum available slots, all teams will move to two weekly practices.**

Coaching

Weekly Professional Coaching

Lancaster Firebirds Hockey Director/Pro Coach Chris Campanale will be on the ice with each team every week. Working closely with team coaches, they will determine the best drills and systems for each practice.

Our program specializes in elite skill development with an emphasis on skating, puck handling, and transition play.



Goaltending Development

Goaltenders will receive comprehensive, season-long training through twelve (12) one-hour professional goaltending sessions during the 2026–2027 season. Sessions will be strategically scheduled to ensure consistent development throughout the regular season and playoffs. Training will be led by a professional goaltending coach from The Goalie Doctor, providing specialized instruction focused on technique, consistency, and game readiness.



Registration, Evaluation, and Team Selection

Registration

Players must register on-line at www.lancastericerink.org prior to the first evaluation session. As part of that process players will require a valid USA Hockey registration number. First time Mite players who don't have a USA Hockey number for the previous season will be required to complete a LCY AHL waiver form. Players who have not registered with the Lancaster Firebirds will not be allowed on the ice for evaluations.

Player Selection Process

Selections shall be based on activities at official LCY AHL evaluation sessions. Practices arranged and/or conducted by LCY AHL appointed coaches, assistant coaches, or other personnel prior to official LCY AHL evaluations will have no bearing on the outcome of evaluations. Each player will be evaluated during evaluations while performing basic and/or advanced hockey skills and/or scrimmages against their peers. Previous season's coaches from each level should be available to assist in the evaluation process by running on ice drills and scrimmages. A committee comprised of the LCY AHL Hockey Director and at least one non parent evaluator will determine which players will make which team. Sensitivity, respect and consideration to the self-image of the players should be foremost.

During evaluations, no players are to be waived or released on the ice surface, under any circumstance, in any division, except where the safety of the player is compromised, or disciplinary conditions exists. Player selection and assignments shall be done with the utmost dispatch. No current or former member of the LCY AHL are permitted to make promises with players/parents/guardians in order to secure their commitment to a LCY AHL team.

Selection Standards

Selection to a LCY AHL team is a privilege, not a right, and will be based upon skill, experience, attitude and conduct. Skaters will be evaluated on all four blade edges, their forward stride, backward stride, transition skating, puck handling, passing and receiving, shooting and scoring ability, aggressiveness, team play and physical play. Goalies will be evaluated on their balance and movement, agility and quickness, angles and positions, save selection, anticipation, aggressiveness, concentration, athleticism and resiliency. No player is guaranteed a position on a team because he/she played on a LCY AHL team during a prior season. Prior participation on a LCY AHL team may be considered when other evaluative factors are equal. Player or parental conduct inconsistent with the LCY AHL Policies and Procedures during a past season may be taken into consideration in making player selections.

The committee will make player selections for the best interest of the team. A player could be cut from club level play if the standards are not to the ability of the standard of play at that level of competition. The development of the Little Firebirds has been created in the event of this situation to allow everyone an opportunity to play hockey at a level that is consistent and safe for the player to learn and grow as a student of the game.

Evaluation sessions will be held for each age level according to the schedule on the next page. If additional evaluation sessions are needed, they will be announced at the last scheduled evaluation and posted on the Lancaster Firebirds website. Players will be told if they need to participate in the extra evaluation session. There is a non-refundable evaluation fee that is NOT included in tuition.



Registration, Evaluation, and Team Selection Cont.

6U/8U/10U/12U Player Evaluation Process

Once your player steps on the ice for their first evaluation session they are agreeing to play exclusively for the Lancaster Firebirds (LCYAHL) for the 2026-2027 season in accordance with AAHA Rules and Regulations. Should the LCYAHL not place your player on a team, a release will be granted and the player will have the option to join the Little Firebirds.

14U/16U/18U Player Contract Process

In order for any player within these ages to be eligible for evaluation they must complete an online registration form and pay the evaluation fee. Upon completion of each evaluation session, contracts to appropriate teams will be offered based on performances at each of the evaluation sessions. Upon the completion of the final evaluation session, all contracts available will be offered to those players who are placed on each team. The contract link will also include how to pay your player's tuition or set up a payment plan.

Evaluation Fee

A non-refundable \$99 evaluation fee (NOT included in tuition) will be charged at the time of registration.

TRYOUT DATES 2026-2027

Age Group	Tryout 1	Tryout 2	Tryout 3
6U/8U	3/17/2026	3/19/2026	
10U	3/16/2026	3/18/2026	3/23/2026
12U	3/16/2026	3/18/2026	3/23/2026
14U	4/06/2026	4/08/2026	4/13/2026
16U	4/06/2026	4/08/2026	4/09/2026
18U	4/07/2026	4/09/2026	4/13/2026

***** Teams will practice week before the AHF Parity event.*****

9U-12U Parity event is April 11-12th, 2026

13U-18U Parity Event for is April 18-19,2026



Payment Options

Pay in Full – Full tuition payment is due immediately following your player’s first evaluation session (6U/8U/10U/12U). For 14U/16U/18U the first payment is due within *24 hours* of acceptance of team placement. A link will be sent out for you to pay tuition via Sports Engine.

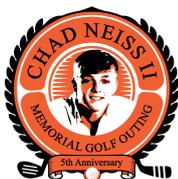
Payment Plan – The first of six equal payments (amount outlined in table on the last page) is due immediately following your player’s first evaluation session (6U/8U/10U/12U). For 14U/16U/18U the first payment is due within *24 hours* of acceptance of team placement. The remaining five payments will be debited on a monthly basis following the first payment on the 30th of each month. A link will be sent with the contract offer for you to set up tuition payments via Sports Engine.

Release/Refund Policy

Releases are considered by the hockey director only in cases where the player’s entire tuition fee (NOT including discounts) has been paid in full. Refunds of player tuition are not granted for any reason. Releases will automatically be denied and referred to AAHA to determine outcome.

No Pay – No Play Policy

All accounts must be current for players to participate in the Lancaster Firebirds travel hockey program. Players with accounts in arrears may be subject to suspension at the discretion of the LCY AHL Board of Directors. Delinquent accounts at the end of the season will be referred to the AHF and AAHA which may result in the player being placed on the USA Hockey “Player Debt List” which may preclude the player from participating in any AAHA sanctioned hockey program, including scholastic hockey during the following year.



Financial Hardship Assistance - Chad Neiss II Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Chad Neiss II Memorial Scholarship Fund has been set up to honor Chad Neiss II "Bomber". Neiss had played hockey for the Lancaster Firebirds from 1999 through 2013. The fund provides financial assistance to children in need, so they can play youth hockey for the Firebirds and enjoy the game that Chad loved so much.

To be considered for financial assistance or a change in payment terms, you must complete and **submit an application** by March 9th, 2026. Scholarships will be awarded by March 18th, 2026.

Lancaster Ice Rink ---> Firebirds ---> Neiss Scholarship Fund

Fundraising:

Players will pay for fundraising raffle tickets as part as their tuition. During the season, players will be able to sell the tickets, if they choose, to make the money back. Each team will be required to have a gift basket for a Firebirds event. All other fundraiser events are optional, but recommended. As a non profit organization, fundraising and sponsorships keep our programs running.

Team Apparel

All Lancaster Firebirds players are required to purchase the following apparel, which is **not included** in the player tuition fee. Apparel samples for sizing, along with ordering instructions, will be available at evaluations.

- 2 Game Jerseys (Home/Away)
- 1 Practice Jersey (Home/Away)
- Hockey Socks (Home/Away/Practice)
- Team Warm-Ups (New!)
- Black Hockey Pants (no other team decals)
- Black Helmet



Tuition Schedule and Financial Information

Age Group	Raffle Fee	Tuition	Total Tuition	Full- 2%	Payment Plan	2 Players Full- 12%	2 Player Payment Plan
6U	\$ 100.00	\$ 975.00	\$ 1,075.00	\$ 1,055.50	\$ 179.17	\$ 958.00	\$ 162.92
8U	\$ 100.00	\$ 975.00	\$ 1,075.00	\$ 1,055.50	\$ 179.17	\$ 958.00	\$ 162.92
10U-A	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,350.00	\$ 2,450.00	\$ 2,403.00	\$ 408.33	\$ 2,168.00	\$ 369.17
9/10U-AA	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,460.00	\$ 2,560.00	\$ 2,510.80	\$ 426.67	\$ 2,264.80	\$ 385.67
12U-A	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,490.00	\$ 2,590.00	\$ 2,540.20	\$ 431.67	\$ 2,291.20	\$ 390.17
11/12U-AA	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,610.00	\$ 2,710.00	\$ 2,657.80	\$ 451.67	\$ 2,396.80	\$ 408.17
14U-A	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,570.00	\$ 2,670.00	\$ 2,618.60	\$ 445.00	\$ 2,361.60	\$ 402.17
13/14U-AA	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,746.00	\$ 466.67	\$ 2,476.00	\$ 421.67
16U-A	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,730.00	\$ 2,830.00	\$ 2,775.40	\$ 471.67	\$ 2,502.40	\$ 426.17
15/16U-AA	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,860.00	\$ 2,960.00	\$ 2,902.80	\$ 493.33	\$ 2,616.80	\$ 445.67
18U-A	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,440.00	\$ 2,540.00	\$ 2,491.20	\$ 423.33	\$ 2,247.20	\$ 382.67
18U-AA	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,860.00	\$ 2,960.00	\$ 2,902.80	\$ 493.33	\$ 2,616.80	\$ 445.67

18 AA developmental package and price will be the same as 16AA

Discounts

Full Pay – A full pay discount of **2%** is applied to the Tuition Fee when the balance due is paid at registration (the actual charge to credit card occurs on the day after the first evaluation). Full payment can be made via personal check or money order to LCYAHL. (There will be a \$40 fee for any checks returned for insufficient funds)

Family Discount (two players or more) – A 10% discount will be applied to the Tuition Fee of each player. The discount amount will be refunded automatically.

Goalie – *Free Tuition. Goalie discount is available for full-time goalies ONLY. The goalie discount is available to goalies at the Pee wee (12U) level and older. Potential goalie discounts at the Squirt (10) level will be considered on an individual basis and must be discussed with the Hockey Director. All Squirt (10U) goalies must register as skaters. Any goalie discount at the Squirt (10U) level will be applied after team selection. *Family discount is not applicable to other siblings if one sibling is a full-time goalie.

Coaching-We appreciate our volunteers as our organization could not exist without them. The Firebirds will give a discount to head coaches only; the discount will be determined by their coaching experience.

Non-parent paid coaches will be considered on a limited capacity.

