

# What to Expect from Otsego County Hockey Association

(2018-19 season)



\*Each level of play will have varying player and parent expectations. This document will help serve as a GUIDE to give parents and players a baseline of what they should prepare for as they navigate through each division of play. Please refer to OCHA bylaws and Policy's found at [gaylordhockey.com](http://gaylordhockey.com) for further information.

OCHA is private, not-for-profit organization made up of players from Gaylord and the surrounding areas.

Each team (6U level and higher) will have a head coach and at least one assistant coach as well as a team manager.

All OCHA board members, coaches, and team managers are parent and community volunteers.

OCHA is supported by registration fees, grants, fundraising, sponsorship and other donations.

OCHA is a community organization and each player, parent and volunteer needs to put their best effort into representing Gaylord and Otsego County. The more we each do, the better the experience for our kids.

OCHA uses the SportsEngine App for scheduling and other important information. Please utilize this to stay updated. OCHA and coaches also communicate via email and text message. Please make sure OCHA has an active email address and phone number. You will also find information on our Facebook page and website [gaylordhockey.com](http://gaylordhockey.com).

## **OCHA Board of Trustees:**

**Mandy Kelly** President/Head of Program

**Liz Harding** Vice President

**Annie Sorenson** Treasurer

**Corrie Smith** Secretary

**Jamie Chafer** Coaching Director

**Julie Geyer** Registrar

**Jen Wingo** Travel Director

**Ray Kihn** Non-Checking Director

**Ed English** Checking Director

**Linda Pratt** Tournament Director

**Andrea Warren** Public Relations & Website

## Fundraising:

Every player is required to do OCHA fundraising, the amount needed depends on the team your player is on. Our association does 2 different types of fundraising:

Discount Cards - These cards have discounts to local businesses around Gaylord. They sell for \$15 each.

Raffle Tickets – These tickets are sold for \$10 each, a portion is filled out and returned in the OCHA mailbox, just outside the skate shop. Beginning in January, every week for 10 weeks straight, we will draw 3 lucky \$100 winners plus a bonus \$500 winner at the end of the season.

The fundraising is paid for in full up front, **before the first night of practices** and the player then sells them to recoup their money.

We will have all players fundraising available for pickup the night of walk-in registration Sunday, September 23 3-6pm. Also, the first night of practice on Monday, October 15 6-8pm & Tuesday, October 16, 5-8pm we will have fundraising available for pickup.

Extra fundraising may also be purchased to help pay down your players ice fees. It would need to be paid for up front, then the player can sell to recoup the funds. You can contact the OCHA treasurer Annie Sorenson, ([annieochatreasurer@yahoo.com](mailto:annieochatreasurer@yahoo.com)) with any questions.

## IP (Instructional Play) Program:

- The OCHA IP program is the first stage in a player's house hockey career and is available for 2013 birth years and older male or female.
- Ice Fees are FREE to IP, Thanks to the William and Linda Muzyl Grant of the Otsego County Community Foundation.
- A **copy** of the players birth certificate will need to be turned in with the registration forms, or on the first night of practice. There will be a table out front with OCHA representatives to help assist with collecting those and any other questions you may have.
- The \$50 registration fee is waived for all **first time IP players**.
- Each player will be required to sell \$110.00 in fundraising (6 discount cards and 2 Raffle tickets). This fundraising will need to be paid for prior to the players first night on the ice.
- USA hockey registration (\$45 on-line payment if 2012 birth year or older). If younger, they must still be registered but no fee is necessary. [Gaylordhockey.com](http://Gaylordhockey.com).
- The IP program is set up as a 12 week session, running on Tuesday Nights, beginning Tuesday October 23, 2018.
- After 9 weeks of the IP program, players can then be evaluated by a coach and moved to their age appropriate team. (note: this evaluation can also be done prior to the 9 weeks, if the player posses the skill and the coach agrees to move them up). The player would then pay those prorated ice fees for that team.
- If the player chooses not to move up to their age appropriate team, they can then finish out the remaining 3 weeks of the IP Program.
- The Otsego County Hockey Association (OCHA) IP program is designed to give parents the opportunity to let their children try and participate in the sport of ice hockey.

- Full equipment is required. Our association has a limited number of rental bags for a \$50 fee. This bag does not include a Helmet, Skates or sticks, but has all the other equipment needed. The bags will need to be returned at the end of the season and \$25 will be refunded to the parents.
- The IP players will participate in 1 jamboree (small game setup) in the month of December.
- Parents will be required to help in some form with the jamboree.

## 6U (Mini Mites):

- 6U is for birth year 2012-2013
- The Cost for 6U is:
  - A \$50 player registration fee(**Paid Before September 30, 2018, Late Registration fee is \$75**)
  - \$160 Ice Fees (broken down in to 3 payments Oct 1, Nov 1 & Jan 1)
  - \$110 in fundraising (6 discount Cards & 2 raffle cards).
  - Fundraising will need to be paid for prior to the players first night on the ice.
  - USA hockey registration (\$45 on-line payment if 2012 birth year or older). If younger they must still be registered but no fee is necessary. Gaylordhockey.com.
- 6U follows the ABC's of ADM. Your child will learn Agility, Balance and Coordination. Fun & Fundamentals. Keeping things fun and more age appropriate while helping every player improve his or her fundamental skills.
- Each team will practice twice a week, Tuesdays & Thursdays, beginning October 16, 2018.
- Teams will participate in various jamborees throughout the season.
- It is mandatory that all families volunteer to help throughout the season with home jamborees and games.
- 6U games are played on either half ice or cross ice games.
- Games are played Four (4) on Four (4) with a Goalie and no score is kept on the scoreboard.
- It is each player/parent's responsibility to make sure each player attends ALL team practices, games, Jamborees, and team functions. We all have busy schedules, so please communicate with your team coach if you need to miss.
- Practices and games are typically only cancelled if the Sportsplex is closed or an opposing team cancels. Please get your players to practice and on the ice on time. We only have typically 50 minutes, so allow time to get them dressed to take the ice at the start time of your practice or game.
- Each player is responsible for providing their own equipment. Player's helmets must have a sticker displaying a current date of expiration.
- Each player will sign a Code of Conduct, and will be required to abide by the Code of Conduct at all OCHA functions.

## 8U (Mites):

- 8U is set for birth year 2010-2011
- The Cost of the 8U Program is:

- \$50 player registration fee (**Paid Before September 30, 2018, Late Registration fee is \$75**)
- \$392 Ice Fees (broken down in to 3 payments Oct 1, Nov 1 & Jan 1)
- \$190 in fundraising (6 discount Cards & 10 raffle cards).
- Fundraising will need to be paid for prior to the players first night on the ice.
- USA hockey registration (\$45 on-line payment if 2012 birth year or older).  
Gaylordhockey.com.
- 8U follows the ABC's of ADM. Your child will work on Agility, Balance and Coordination. Fun & Fundamentals. Keeping things fun and more age appropriate while helping every player improve his or her fundamental skills.
- Each team will practice twice a week, Tuesdays & Thursdays, beginning October 16.
- Teams will participate in various games and jamborees throughout the season.
- It is mandatory that all families volunteer to help throughout the season with home jamborees and games.
- Game jersey and game socks are provided.
- 8U ADM games are played on either half ice or cross ice games.
- Games are played Four (4) on Four (4) with a Goalie and no score is kept on the scoreboard.
- It is each player/parent's responsibility to make sure each player attends ALL team practices, games, Jamborees, and team functions. We all have busy schedules, so please communicate with your team coach if you need to miss.
- Practices and games are typically only cancelled if the Sportsplex is closed or an opposing team cancels. Please get your players to practice and on the ice on time. We only have typically 50 minutes, so allow time to get them dressed to take the ice at the start time of your practice or game.
- Each player is responsible for providing their own equipment. Player's helmets must have a sticker displaying a current date of expiration.
- Any player transferring from another association will require a player release.

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

- Any player with hockey experience and a birth year of 2008 or 2009
- The Cost of 10U is:

- A \$50 player registration fee (**Paid Before September 30, 2018, Late Registration fee is \$75**)
- \$700.00 Ice Fees (broken down in to 3 payments Oct 1, Nov 1 & Jan 1)
- \$190 in fundraising (6 discount Cards & 10 raffle cards).
- Fundraising will need to be paid for prior to the players first night on the ice.
- USA hockey registration (\$45 on-line payment if 2012 birth year or older).  
Gaylordhockey.com.
- 10U will practice twice a week (approx. 1 hour each Tuesday & Thursday) with dry land training also being held prior to the on ice practice.
- Practices are a combination of full ice and half ice.
- Each team will play approximately 12 game days for the season, and tournaments on top of these.
- All squirt games are full ice
- Squirt games are (3) 12 minute periods.
- Home games are curfew games and cannot exceed (1) hour.
- Scorekeepers and timekeepers are parent volunteers. It is mandatory that all families volunteer throughout the season.
- Tournament games are typically spread over 3 days. Friday or Monday games are likely.
- Home & Away Tournaments are discussed at the parent meeting. Parent Meeting will be held at the start of the season.
- It is each player/parent's responsibility to make sure each player attend ALL team practices, games, tournaments, and team functions.
- Practices and games are typically only cancelled if the Sportsplex is closed or an opposing team cancels. Please get your players to practice and on the ice on time. We only have typically 50 minutes, so allow time to get them dressed to take the ice at the start time of your practice or game.
- Each player is responsible for providing their own equipment. Player's helmets must have a sticker displaying a current date of expiration.
- 2 Club jerseys (one home and one away) and game socks will be provided prior to the first game of the season. Each team will need one or two jersey volunteers to collect, transport and wash jerseys for the season.
- Each player and parent will sign a Code of Conduct, and will be required to abide by the Code of Conduct at all OCHA functions.
- Any player transferring from another association requires a release from their previous organization.
- Offsides and penalties are introduced at this level.

## **12U (Pee Wee):**

- Any player with hockey experience and a birth year of 2006 or 2007
- The Cost 12U is:
  - A \$50 player registration fee (**Paid Before September 30, 2018, Late Registration fee is \$75**)

- \$800.00 Ice Fees (broken down in to 3 payments Oct 1, Nov 1& Jan 1)
- \$190 in fundraising (6 discount Cards & 10 raffle cards).
- Fundraising will need to be paid for prior to the players first night on the ice.
- USA hockey registration (\$45 on-line payment if 2012 birth year or older).  
Gaylordhockey.com
- 12U will practice twice a week (approx. 1 hour each Tuesday & Thursday) with dry land training being held prior to the on ice practice.
- Each team will play approximately 12 game days for the season, and tournaments on top of these.
- Games are (3) 12 minute periods.
- Home games are curfew games and cannot exceed (1) hour.
- Scorekeepers and timekeepers are parent volunteers. It is mandatory that all families volunteer throughout the season.
- Home & Away Tournaments are discussed at the parent meeting. Parent Meeting will be held at the start of the season.
- It is each player/parent's responsibility to make sure each player attends ALL team practices, games, tournaments, and team functions.
- Practices and games are typically only cancelled if the Sportsplex is closed or an opposing team cancels. Please get your players to practice and on the ice on time. We only have typically 50 minutes, so allow time to get them dressed to take the ice at the start time of your practice or game.
- USA hockey registration (\$45 on-line payment if 2012 birth year or older).
- Each player is responsible for providing their own equipment. Player's helmets must have a sticker displaying a current date of expiration.
- 2 Club jerseys (one home and one away) and game socks will be provided prior to the first game of the season. Each team will need one or two jersey volunteers. To collect, transport and wash jerseys for the season.
- Each player and parent will sign a Code of Conduct, and will be required to abide by the Code of Conduct at all OCHA functions.
- Any player transferring from another association requires a release from their previous organization
- Slap shots are introduced at this level.

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

- Any player with hockey experience and a birth year of 2004 & 2005
- The Cost 14U is:

- A \$50 player registration fee(**Paid Before September 30, 2018, Late Registration fee is \$75**)
- \$930.00 Ice Fees (broken down in to 3 payments Oct 1, Nov 1& Jan 1)
- \$190 in fundraising (6 discount Cards & 10 raffle cards).
- Fundraising will need to be paid for prior to the players first night on the ice.
- USA hockey registration (\$45 on-line payment if 2012 birth year or older).  
Gaylordhockey.com
- 14U will practice twice a week (approx. 1:20 hrs Mondays and 1 hour Wednesdays). Expect dryland before or after practice times as well.
- 14U will play approximately 2-4 games per week, generally weekends from November through February
- Games are (3) 15 minute periods
- Scorekeepers and timekeepers are parent volunteers. It is mandatory that all families volunteer throughout the season.
- Home & Away Tournaments are discussed at the parent meeting. Parent Meeting will be held at the start of the season.
- It is each player/parent's responsibility to make sure each player attends ALL team practices, games, tournaments, and team functions.
- Practices and games are typically only cancelled if the Sportsplex is closed or an opposing team cancels. Please get your players to practice and on the ice on time. We only have typically 50 minutes, so allow time to get them dressed to take the ice at the start time of your practice or game.
- Each player is responsible for providing their own equipment. Player's helmets must have a sticker displaying a current date of expiration.
- 2 Club jerseys (one home and one away) and game socks will be provided prior to the first game of the season. Each team will need one or two jersey volunteers. To collect, transport and wash jerseys for the season.
- Each player and parent will sign a Code of Conduct, and will be required to abide by the Code of Conduct at all Club functions.
- This is typically a player's last season of house hockey. After Bantam, players usually play for their high school team or a travel team. At this time OCHA does not offer house hockey beyond 14U.
- Any player transferring from another association requires a release from their previous organization.
- Body checking is introduced at the Bantam level.