



PATRIOTS

Youth Hockey Association



NEWSLETTER: August 2025

PRE-SEASON, TRYOUTS, PLACEMENTS

The OIC will run practices for each travel age group, giving the kids time to get used to being back on the ice, run some drills, and prepare them for try-outs and placements.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRYOUTS AND PLACEMENTS?

A-teams **tryouts** are used for a selective team formation. Skaters are assessed on effort, competitive attitude, and hockey intelligence rather than assigning scores or rankings to individual performance in specific drills. Further, the coach's insights into a skater are factored into the decision-making process. Only skaters who registered to tryout for A-teams are eligible to attend.

B/C **placements** uses a traditional ranking system where skaters (as anonymized as possible) are assessed by evaluators. Skating, puck control, hockey IQ, and competitiveness are rated per skater and used to derive an overall score which is used to place players on teams. All registered skaters at the travel levels are eligible to attend placements.

The OIC will be hosting parent meetings prior to Camp Ice. During these sessions, the OIC will go over the schedule, expectations, and answer any parent questions. Finalized schedules will be posted to the calendar soon.

- **OIC Open Forum** – Tentative September 16 and 17, hosted online times TBD.
- **Pre-season** – September 8-20
- **A-Team Tryouts** – September 21-24
 - A-Team Selections 9/24
- **Placement Sessions** – September 25-October 3
 - B/C Team Selections – October 4

For more detailed information on Camp Ice, Tryouts, and Placements; please review the updated **PYHA Tryout and Placement Process** document found on <https://www.patriotshockey.org>.



CALLING ALL COACHES

Coach registration is Live. To be considered for coaching this season please register by **August 31st**. Registration will close at 11:59pm. All Coaches must have a USA Hockey Coach Membership (yearly), complete SafeSport training (yearly), and complete/pass a background screen (every other year).

Coaches can register online [HERE](#)

DRAGONS UPDATE

The 3rd annual Region 4 Showdown was held at the Verona Ice Arena on August 16 & 17, 2025. We had 104 participants which were distributed into 3 age divisions with 3 teams in each division. Each team was led by a female head coach.

The competition was fierce, and the games were fast! This year, we allowed "student coaches" to help out. In total, we had 10 student coaches (7 female and 3 male)! We were able to staff at least 1 female ref for every game (12 games).

We want to thank our sponsors, Play It Again Sports and House of Hockey. In addition to our sponsors, registration fees and raffle baskets, a T-shirt fundraiser was held with half of the proceeds to be added to the overall earnings. Once we get a final total from all sources and learn which associations will be hosting primary girls travel teams this year, we will distribute donations out to those associations. It was a great weekend for girls' hockey!

LET'S TALK ABOUT REC

The Recreational (Rec) Team is a fantastic opportunity for families to learn and grow with the sport of Hockey! The kids get to skate with other kids that are learning the GAME, and the teams have historically developed positive, supporting relationships with one another. Not only is it a great opportunity for the kids to develop new skills, BUT PARENTS also get the opportunity to learn with them. Several Parents have also taken advantage of the opportunity to learn to coach, giving them the chance to be immersed in several kids' development. Whether you are a kid that wants to try something new, want to play in between your other activities, or a Parent who wants to learn new skills, Rec has a home for everyone!

DID YOU KNOW?

As a fully volunteer run association we have two different requirements for our members to help each season. Volunteer and Concession requirements are not the same. We rely on our members to help the season operate thru various association roles and event help as well as run the Concession stand. Roles such as assistant (travel) and in-house level (U8/U6) coaches along with committee members and locker room monitors fulfill Volunteer requirements only. Board Member, Head Coach, Team Manager and Age Level Coordinator positions fulfill both Volunteer and Concession stand requirements.

Game day requirements (clock, GameSheets, penalty box, Miteboard set up/take down) are part of your team responsibilities and are not part of association Volunteer requirements.

You can find your requirements and fulfillment in DIBS once the season has been created. If you have questions reach out to pyhatreasurer@patriotshockey.org

ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

This was our biggest year yet! A little rain wasn't going to stop anyone from getting in some time on the green, and participating in games and raffles!

Congratulations to our winners: Mike Hanna, JW Sims, Jon Provenzano, and Marty Kvalheim

Minutes from the previous month's board meetings will be available online following approval during the most recent meeting. The next board meeting will be held **Monday, September 8 at 6 p.m.** at [Oakstone Recreational](#) in Cottage Grove and is open to all members of PYHA.

We always want to hear back from our families. If you have any questions or concerns, you can email them to PYHABoard@patriotshockey.org.

If you are no longer a member of PYHA and would like to be removed from the email list, please visit our [Unsubscribe](#) page for instructions.



The Patriots Youth Hockey Association would like to thank the following sponsors for their support:

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