

AHA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

DEVELOPING A LOVE FOR THE GAME



THANKFUL FOR HOCKEY

Once the skates are laced up it doesn't take long until you begin to hear the echoes of cheering and laughter which eventually just becomes the sound of hockey after each stride on the ice. This month, the sounds of hockey echoed loud and clear through Anchorage Hockey Association. There might have been a week where it was slightly muffled by the sounds of the snowblower in your driveway. But we were all thankful to know that those happy sounds would return again once we got back to the rink. AHA had a very busy month of November with 3 tournaments, 88 games, and 264 practices between all of

12U Comets Gastrock 2023 Peninsula PP Champions



our teams sporting the blue and gold! All the hours of practice paid off for six of our hard working teams who collectively brought home 7 different championships over the last 30 days. All of the exciting moments that we experienced are what makes us that much more thankful for the game of hockey and for those who help provide the platform for our young athletes to play. Thank you to all of the parents, coaches, directors, staff members, and our officials that help us build this positive experience!





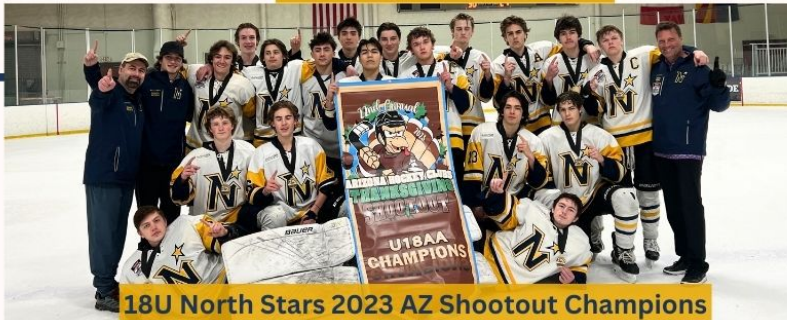
2023

CHAMPIONSHIP SUNDAY

For some, Sundays are for worship but for a lot of hockey players Sundays are for Champions. AHA teams participated in 3 different tournaments this month. The biggest tournament of them all was AHA's own 34th Annual Turkey Shootout. There were a total of 87 teams and 191 games over the 4 day holiday weekend and every rink in Anchorage was utilized for the 10 Division tournament. The schedule was a full as your stomachs were on Thanksgiving day! One of the biggest highlights of the weekend was in the final championship game of the tournament.

A packed Ben Boeke Arena was hyped up by some groovy music and theatrical announcing by Graham McManamin which set the tone for an exciting championship game between the 14U Comets and Hockey Club Fairbanks. The 14U Comets came out hot putting a goal in the back of net early in the first, and they never looked back after that. Tremendous team play and an outstanding performance in net helped lead them to a 3-0 victory! This was their second championship of the month! In the Turkey shootout they had 24 goals for and only 4 against!

A tournament of this scale takes a lot of help and expertise. Hats off to Brian Gross and Carol Hammingh who helped put it all together and a huge thanks to all of the volunteers who helped with all the integral day to day operations to allow for a well run holiday tournament!



18U North Stars 2023 AZ Shootout Champions



12U Minor North Stars 2023 Left Over Turkey Champions



12U Major North Stars 2023 Left Over Turkey Champions



10A Comets 2023 Turkey Shootout Champions



14A Comets 2023 Turkey Shootout Champions

SKATING THROUGH TIME: CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF COACHING



November is the month to be thankful and our Anchorage hockey community is extremely thankful for AHA's Director of Recreational hockey and Girls High School hockey. This season marks 25 years of coaching excellence for Brian Gross! Brian's impact on our youth hockey community has been felt at every level of the game and he continues to impress us with his dedication and passion for providing a memorable and educational experiences for our youth athletes. Because of this 25 year milestone, Brian's friends, family, and AHA worked together to help honor him and provided him and his son with a night to remember down in Seattle, WA. The two will go watch the Seattle Kraken play the Minnesota Wild at Climate Pledge Arena! Thank you for everything you do, Brian. Congratulations on 25 years of coaching!



Mark your Calendars for December

- Dec 2nd - UAA Family Hockey Night - UAA vs UAF - 6pm @ UAA**
- Dec 3rd - 12A Comets Gastrock vs 10U North Stars Arnold - 12:30pm @ UAA
- Dec 8th - 10A Comets vs Hockey Club Alaska 10U - 9:00pm @ KENAI
- Dec 9th - Little Dippers Red 3 vs SAHA - 1:00pm @ OMALLEY
- Dec 10th - AHA Skate-A-Thon - 8:45am - 12:30pm @ UAA**
- Dec 10th - AHA Girls Skate / NS Girls Watch Party -
- Dec 10th - North Star 16U Girls vs Valley Thunder 16U Girls - 1:30pm @ DA2
- Dec 15th - 17th - Winter Fest Outdoor Tournament**
- Dec 15th - North Star 10U Wigren vs Blue Devils 10U - 6:45pm @ DA2
- Dec 15th - South/Bartlett vs Dimond/West - 5:45pm @ DA1
- Dec 15th - Mat-Su vs Chugiak/Eagle River - 7:15pm @ DA1
- Dec 16th - 17th - Alaska Girls Player Development Selects Camp @ UAA**
- Dec 16th - Little Dippers White 3 & 4 vs SAHA - 2:00pm @ OMALLEY
- Dec 16th - North Stars 14U vs Wolves 14U - 2:45pm @ MAC
- Dec 22nd - 23rd - Alaska Boys Player Development Selects Camp @ OMALLEY**

Family Hockey Night



**UAA vs UAF
Dec 2nd 6pm @ UAA**



Sunday, Dec 10, 2023
UAA Avis Ice Arena

Skate your heart out and raise some money for your Rec hockey season! Please sponsor a player and help these kids have fun, stay active, and play hockey this winter!



WinterFest Outdoor Hockey Tournament
December 15-17, 2023

Throw on your warmest jacket and come enjoy hockey at its chilly roots! AHAs Winterfest will be played outside at Mulcahy, the Park Strip, and Tikishla outdoor rinks!

