

**YELLOWJACKETS**



**YELLOWJACKETS MIDGET PROGRAM  
PARENT HANDBOOK  
(Split Season Information)**

**Tier II Midget Major and Minor Teams**

## **Yellowjackets Midget Program Mission Statement**

To provide high quality skill development for all midget aged players.  
To provide a positive and safe environment for everyone involved.  
To develop integrity in everyday life situations as well as on the ice.  
To develop life values through a positive hockey experience.

## **Parent Code of Conduct**

The Yellowjackets organization encourages support at all games and practices. Hockey is an exciting game for fans as well as players. In support of our mission and philosophy, we strive to maintain a positive atmosphere, where Yellowjackets players and their opponents are ***positively*** recognized and supported for their athletic efforts on the ice. The Yellowjackets organization asks for your cooperation while attending games and practices.

The following actions will not be tolerated:

- Using obscene or vulgar language to anyone at anytime.
- Taunting players, coaches, officials, or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, physical violence, or threat of physical violence.
- Throwing any objects in the spectators' viewing area, players' bench, penalty box, or on-ice surface.

## **Parent-Coach 24-Hour Rule**

The Parent/Coach 24-Hour Rule is implemented to ensure effective communication and issue resolution. Parents may not approach coaches to voice complaints or displeasure with coaching decisions immediately preceding or following any game or practice. To express concerns, parents must arrange a meeting through the team manager to meet with the coach. At the meeting, all questions and concerns will be addressed by the coach in an effort to move towards a resolution. Individuals in violation of this policy will be contacted by the Midget Program Education Director, Team Manager, or a member of the Yellowjackets Board of Directors.

## **Tryouts and Membership**

Tryouts and team selection for Yellowjackets Midget Program Tier II teams will not begin until September 1 of the current Playing Season per Amateur Hockey Association Illinois (AHA) Rules & Regulations. Tryouts are normally held in early September. Registration for membership is open in July where an initial deposit of \$350.00 is due.

## **Split Season Ice Fees**

The 2010/2011 season ice fees will be \$1,250.00 for players on the Midget Major and Midget Minor teams. The following is the payment schedule for the program:

- \$350 deposit due upon registration (July)
- \$225 is due monthly from August through October (due the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month)
- \$225.00 final payment will be due November 1

There may be additional miscellaneous costs that are not covered in the season ice fees. Costs not included in the Midget Major and Minor Split Season Ice Fees include player travel expenses for out-of-town tournaments, additional practices, tournament fees associated with advancement beyond the initial round of Silversticks and state playoffs, and all hockey equipment not specifically listed as included with the Season Ice Fees (Registration).

Season ice fees are calculated based on a 16-18 skaters and 2 goalies. If the team consist of fewer players and increase in fees may be required to cover expenses. These additional fees will not exceed \$200.

## **No Pay – No Play Policy**

On-time payments are required for membership in the Yellowjackets Midget Program. If it is determined that on-time payment has not been made by a Midget Program member, the **NO PAY – NO PLAY POLICY** takes effect and the delinquent family will be notified. Payments must be received by the player's next scheduled ice slot, or the player will not be allowed to skate until the bill is paid in full. In addition, the Yellowjackets organization fully supports and abides by the AHA rule where any player who has an outstanding balance with an AHA association, cannot be registered nor on another AHA team roster until the outstanding balance is paid in full.

## **Midget Program Refund Policy**

The Yellowjackets Midget Program fees and deposits are non-refundable and non-transferable. However, refunds of season ice fees may be available in the event a player sustains an injury that prevents participation. The fees will be prorated based on the length of recuperation. Injury refund/waiver requests must be made in writing and include a physician's note with an estimated medical release date. The Midget Education Director and the Yellowjackets Board of Directors has up to 90 days from receipt of the request to render a decision and issue any applicable refund. The decision of the Midget Education Director and the Yellowjackets Board of Directors is final. If the Yellowjackets Board of Directors grants a refund/waiver, a doctor's release will be required before the player will be allowed to participate in any team activities.

Note: A non-paying player, for whatever reason, is not guaranteed a position on the team roster and may be replaced by a paying player as deemed necessary by the coach. A player receiving a refund of fees due to injury will be considered a non-paying player.

### **USA Hockey Registration and Insurance**

USA Hockey has implemented the Individual Membership Registration process on-line. Yellowjackets members are now responsible for their own USA Hockey registration. Players can register with USA Hockey by visiting their Web site at <http://www.usahockeyregistration.com/> . Registrations are effective for one year. Registration with USA Hockey needs to be completed prior to registration with the Yellowjackets Midget Program as members will need to provide a copy of their USA Hockey confirmation to the Yellowjackets to complete their registration process. USA Hockey provides accident insurance for covered medical expenses of members in excess of their personal or group medical insurance to its members. Please be sure to report all hockey related incidents that require outside medical attention to the Team Manager. The association must be kept informed of all serious injuries.

### **Midget Hockey Operations Committee**

The Midget Operations Committee is comprised of the Midget Education Director, Development Director, Team Manager, Head Coaches and the President of the Board of Directors. The Midget Hockey Operations Committee will enforce all USA Hockey rules and Yellowjackets regulations as they apply to Midget Program players, coaches and parents. The committee must be informed of all game and gross misconduct penalties, as well as major and match penalties. The committee is responsible for assessing the minimum USA Hockey suspensions and also has full power to impose further sanctions. In instances involving a game misconduct, the Midget Hockey Operations Committee will assist the clubs Rules & Ethics Director in reviewing the incident with the player or coach who received a game misconduct. The Committee will enforce the sanction and may also assess additional penalties for a game misconduct. For all incidents involving a gross, major, or match penalty the player or coach is automatically suspended for 30 days or until a mandatory hearing by the Midget Hockey Operations Committee is held and a decision is made. This is in accordance with USA Hockey policy. If circumstances prevent the committee from meeting within 30 days, according to USA Hockey, the player or coach shall be suspended until the 30 days expires or a ruling by the proper authorities is assessed. **The Midget Hockey Operations Committee also has the power to impose sanctions and/or expulsion from Yellowjackets for any rules violations by a player, coach or parent.**

## **Rink Rules and Regulations**

The game of hockey provides much excitement and enthusiasm at the ice rink. Players, parents, and all other spectators are reminded that the Crystal Ice House "The Hive", is the Yellowjackets' home rink and should be treated accordingly. The following rules and regulations must be adhered to at all times by Yellowjackets members. Any witness to a violation should inform a member of the Yellowjackets or rink staff immediately. Assistance is greatly appreciated.

- Parents are responsible for any damage to rink grounds or property caused by their player.
- No one is allowed on the bench or bench area except players, coaches with the appropriate USA Hockey certification and/or game officials. Continued warnings will result in disciplinary action.
- Parents are not allowed near player benches during games or practices. The time on the ice with your player belongs to the coaches.
- No one is allowed on the ice until the Zamboni doors are closed and locked. Anyone found violating this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.
- Players are not allowed onto the ice surface without a coach present. Players must wait for a coach to enter the bench area or take the ice.
- Helmets are required for players at all times while on the ice, the bench, and in the penalty box. Removal of helmets is strictly prohibited.
- Players must treat rink employees, league officials, coaches, and on-ice officials with respect.
- Alcohol or drugs are prohibited at all times. Any player or coach possessing illegal drugs or attending a Yellowjackets Midget Program practice or game under the influence of alcohol or drugs is subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the association.

## **Volunteer Positions**

The Yellowjackets Midget Program offers many opportunities for parents and family members to volunteer their services. Those interested in any of the following positions should contact the Midget Education Director.

- Team Manager – The Team Manager responsibilities include; Assisting communication by getting information to and from the team via e-mail, telephone, flyers, etc, Acting as the team representative when dealing with issues involving the team, the Head Coach, the Midget Hockey Operations Committee, or the Yellowjackets Board of Directors, Assuring that a qualified member of the team is available to run the scoreboard, score sheet, and/or penalty box during games. This position requires some dedication and the

representative will be required to attend at least one meeting at the start of the season. Each team is required to have a team manager.

- Equipment Manager – The Equipment Manager is responsible for assembling and maintaining a tool box/first aid kit for the team. This representative should be a person who can attend all games and is willing to position himself/herself near the bench during games. Due to the close proximity to the bench and ice surface, the Equipment Manager will refrain from communicating with players, coaches and officials unless required to perform first aid or equipment repairs. It is hopeful the Equipment Manager will be able to attend out-of-town games.
- Water Bottle/Puck Manager – The Water Bottle/Puck Manager is responsible for supplying filled water bottles and warm-up pucks at all games and practice games. Water bottles need to be washed after every game. The Water Bottle/Puck Manager should be a person who can attend all games and is willing to distribute the bottles and ready the pucks on the bench before the game and collect them after the game. Filtered or bottled water is preferred for our athletes. It is hopeful the Water Bottle/Puck Manager will be able to attend out-of-town games.
- Special Events/Activities Coordinator – The Special Events/Activities Coordinator will assist in the coordination of barbecues, fund raisers, tournaments, team apparel sales, year-end parties, etc. The goal is to have a list of 7-8 “on-call” individuals who would be willing to work one or two of these events/activities.

### **Midget Minor and Major Team**

A team shall consist of a group of players that, having complied with all the By-Laws and Rules and Regulations of AHAI, must have played at least 20 games during the season as a unit and each rostered player must have participated in at least 15 games with that team unit. Participation shall be defined as being on the bench and in uniform for the entire game unless injury prevents this participation.

### **AHAI Tier II Team Definition**

A team that fulfills the requirements of ARTICLE VIII, of the AHAI By-Laws, and ARTICLE I, SECTION C, 1 of these Rules and Regulations. If an association or club has a single Tier II Team at a particular age level Mite through Midget it shall be rated "AA". If an association or club has two or more teams at a particular age level Mite through Midget its first team shall be rated "AA" and the other(s) shall be rated "AA" or "A". It is the obligation of every association or club to place its best players on its "AA" (first) team. In order for an association or club to maintain a Tier II Association, it must have at least three (3) registered Tier II Teams in age divisions Mite through Midget. Tier II team tryouts and/or team selection for Tier II teams shall not begin until September 1 of the current Playing Season.

## EXPLANATION OF TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS & ESTIMATE OF TRAVEL EXPENSES

The Yellowjackets Midget Program teams plan to select tournaments that will match the appropriate talent level of each team. In doing so, tournaments may be selected that involve travel and overnight accommodations. The Team Manager will notify the team members and their families when it is time to make travel arrangements. Below indicates who is responsible for travel arrangements for tournaments more than 500 miles from the Crystal Ice House.

### **Parents**

- Airline ticket purchase
- Coordination/communication with Team Manager of player's transportation between the airport and hotel, if a parent will not be attending the tournament
- Meal selection
- Payment for hotel, bus and meals by last local practice prior to tournament departure
- Spending money for miscellaneous items

### **Yellowjackets**

- Team Hotel Accommodations – Players stay with their teammates. Each player will have their own bed, how many players/room will be dependent on property. Each room requires a parent
- Team Bus – The team bus will transport players from the hotel to/from the rink and meals. (If the cost of a charter bus is cost-prohibitive, the team may rent team vans)

### **Estimated Cost of Travel per Tournament (500+ Mile Radius)**

The information below is being provided for informational purposes only. It is an approximate average of the 2010/2011 season's travel expenses. Actual expenses may vary.

- Airline Ticket – Parents may choose whatever airline they wish. We understand many people utilize frequent flyer programs. Usually good fares are communicated among parents via e-mail. However, if your player is travelling alone, care must be taken to ensure airport transportation is coordinated and potential airline delays are minimized.
- Team Hotel Accommodations – approx \$150.00/player
- Team Bus – approx \$125.00/player
- Team Meals: approx \$50.00/player