

Stoughton Youth Hockey Association

Introductory Hockey Program (IHP)

For each upcoming season this document will be updated and presented to the SYHA Board for the purpose of maintaining a consistent, positive, and successful program of introducing youth to the exciting sport of ice hockey. After the formation of the new SYHA Board each spring, the Board will appoint qualified coaches to oversee the updating of this program for the following season. The purpose of this document is to provide a blueprint and historical reference of successful seasons for future reference.

Proposal: 2011-12 Season

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Why is Stoughton Youth Hockey Association (SYHA) transitioning to In House Cross Ice?

As part of the American Development Model USA Hockey is changing the way we think about hockey. Cross Ice hockey better utilizes a full sheet of ice while simultaneously providing a better practice/game experience to smaller and younger players. Cross Ice will allow us to offer a less expensive introduction to hockey. SYHA will have greater flexibility in adding players and making teams balanced. Traditional instructional teams may be added dependant on interest.

- With this paradigm shift, the organizational structure of IHP will undergo changes. **Beginning this 2011-12 season:**
 - The Mighty Vikes (ages 7 and 8) will replace the "traditional" Mite Team that has existed in previous seasons. The Mighty Vikes will participate in the Dane County U8 Cross Ice League. ADM Model*; practice primarily Wednesdays and Sundays with some Saturdays; U8 Dane County League on half ice with goalies. Estimate 18 to 22 skaters for the 2011-2012 season. Please note this season we opened it to 6 year olds.
 - The Mini-Vikes (ages 4 to 6) will offer opportunities similar to previous seasons. ADM Model; practice primarily Wednesdays and Sundays; 3 to 4 scrimmage jamborees (ice in thirds). Estimate 20 to 25 skaters for the 2011-2012 season.
 - The Super Vikes (ages 9 to 12) will offer introductory opportunities similar to the past 2 seasons with the Mini-Vikes and Mighty Vikes (with an emphasis similar to Rink Rat Hockey). The City Rec Department will offer 2 "mini-sessions" at the beginning of each new City Skating Lesson session. ADM Model; practice primarily Wednesdays and Sundays; 3 to 4 scrimmage games with goalies and referees. Estimate 12 to 15 skaters for the 2011-2012 season. This is the equivalent of a "house league" and will be opened up for certain younger skaters (primarily girls if there is no U10 girl's team).
 - Learn to Skate (ages 4 and up) will only be offered through the Stoughton Recreation Department City Skating Lessons (3 5-week sessions beginning in mid-October). These lessons will introduce basic skating skills, as well as opportunities to try hockey later in the season. We encourage that SYHA develop a permanent and ongoing positive relationship with the Stoughton Recreation Department to better and more efficiently serve our community with qualified instructors for the City LTS program. This is a benefit to both the City program users and SYHA. Liaison duties to a board position.

The Guidelines:

- × IHP Registration: Open House - September 10, 2011

- ✘ (NEW THIS SEASON) Every Mini & Mighty Vike player will be required to register with both USA Hockey and WAHA after April 1, 2011 (\$30 USA HOCKEY & \$10 WAHA)
- ✘ Goalies will only suit up only for scrimmages against other area Clubs. It is more important for skaters in these groups to work on their skating skills and overall hockey skills versus goaltending skills.
- ✘ IHP Coaches for these groups will attend pre-season coaches meetings otherwise they jeopardize the opportunity to participate with on-ice activities. Coaches will continue to run skill based stations stressing FUN! Each IHP level will have a head coach charged with overseeing the coaching and development of players at that level. These will be treated "Head Coach" positions. All coaches will be approved thru the Coaching Committee and the SYHA Board. All coaches will be USA Hockey certified and trained for the proper level. Non-coach (non-approved) adults will not be allowed on the ice as outlined by USA Hockey and WAHA rules.
- ✘ SYHA encourages Mighty Vike families to commit to full participation as a common courtesy for other area Clubs.
- ✘ Skate-A-Thon will be held as a fundraising activity for this specific level.
- ✘ IHP will again partner with the NHL's Chicago Blackhawks and their MinorHawks Program.

Introductory Hockey Program 2011-2012 Cost Structure is set:

Mini-Vike participant

- \$125 FEE, \$100 RAFFLE TICKETS & \$175 FUNDRAISING
- Each Mini-Vike family will be required to work a minimum number of hours at the Mandt Community Center's concession stand.

Mighty Vike participants

- \$250 FEE, \$100 RAFFLE TICKETS & \$300 FUNDRAISING
- Each Mighty Vike family will be required to work a minimum number of hours at the Mandt Community Center's concession stand.

Super Vike participant

- \$125 FEE, \$100 RAFFLE TICKETS & \$175 FUNDRAISING

* The American Development Model (ADM) provides age-appropriate guidelines and curriculum to hockey associations across America to help more kids play, love and excel in hockey. (ADM Model is brought to you by USA Hockey, in partnership with the NHL).