



Fall 2018 Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2018-19 Ayr Minor Hockey season!

The board has been working very hard over the summer preparing a fun and rewarding experience for all our players and families from Junior IP through Midget.

AMHA brings you this newsletter to share the many changes and expanded programs this season, as well as key dates and times to help families be informed.

If at any time, you have questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me or any member of the board. We are here for you!

Wishing you a wonderful season of hockey!

Mike Thibeau
AMHA President

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

With the 2018/19 season about to begin, we have been working hard to develop a plan for players and coaches.

For player development, this year, AMHA has contacted North Ice Hockey to continue with developing AMHA players. North Ice will be providing 4 development sessions to all players and Goalies from Novice to Bantam. Players will continue to work on the most important fundamental in hockey "Skating". The players will work on proper posture, strides, and edges. Although some of this may seem repetitious we must remember that it takes years of training to perfect each skill. North Ice will also have a goalie instructor out at all the sessions to help improve our goalies angling, and movement in the crease. It is mandatory that the coaching staff is on the ice for these sessions to help correct players and work with North Ice. This is also a learning opportunity for coaching staff to hear the key messages that is being conveyed to the players so that we as a coaching group can continue to repeat the same messages in our player development plans.



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This year AMHA will also be providing our coaching staff with the opportunity to learn from some of the industry professionals. Brantford Minor Hockey has been kind enough to extend invitations out to surrounding hockey associations to attend coaching seminars at their facilities. Emails will be sent out to our head coaches from Ayr's Director of Player Development (Jason Alexander) on dates and times of events. AMHA will also be hosting 1-2 coaching seminars this year that will be used to talk about effective coaching techniques/tools as well as getting all the coaches in the same room to share ideas and have an open dialogue on the challenges and success we have had in coaching.

Looking forward to a great season of hockey!!

Jason Alexander
Director of Player Development

Ice Scheduling for the 2018-2019 Season

All scheduled games, practices, player development and tournaments will be on the website.

Ice Times

AMHA has limited ice time until October 9th when the Queen Elizabeth Arena (Ayr Community Center) opens up. Please check the [Ayr Minor Hockey website](#) for details of team practices, exhibition games and player development. Ice time is tight for the first 6 weeks of the season which means all teams will be at some time or another asked to double up on practice times.

Tryouts

AE Tryouts start on Friday start Friday September 7th and are to be completed on or around by Saturday September 15th.

If your child participated in the Rep tryouts last spring, no additional tryout fee is applicable. For those who did not try out for Rep, a \$40.00 tryout fee is required.

Tryout Expectations:

Going out onto the ice and giving instructors 100% respect and effort.

Please note that coaches have been directed to not provide parents or players with any individual's updates throughout the tryout process. Players and parents are asked not to engage the coaches or designated instructors for such feedback.



Season Blackout Dates

Monday Oct. 8th, 2018
Thanksgiving

Dec. 6th-9th, 2018
Regional Silver Stick tournament

Dec. 24th, 25th, 26th, 31st, 2018,
Jan. 1st 2019 Christmas, Boxing
Day and New Years

January 26th, 2019
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM.
Rockets Hockey Day in Ayr

March 22nd, 23rd and 24th, 2019
AMHA Spring Tournament.

AMHA Newsletter

Regular season for Southern Counties (Rep & AE teams) will start on as early as Monday October 1st, 2018. You may not know whom you are playing until 48 hours prior but you will definitely be playing so be prepared.

Regular Season for Grand River Local League will start the week of October 8th

Please note that Local League evaluations will start up on September 19th. Ice times are posted on the [Ayr Minor Hockey website](#).

Practices

Every team will be given a minimum of one hour of practice per week. You will have a normal practice time during the week but from time to time there may be some movement to reflect conflicts with out of town games or if another team needs to be moved and accommodated. There will be plenty of notice for all of this. During OMHA play downs, Southern County playoffs and Grand River Local League playoffs, you may only have a week or two notice so I would encourage checking the website often during this time. If you want to switch practices with another team, I am fine with this but you must notify me as soon as possible so I can update the Township of North Dumfries.

Game Time Policy

Please ensure that your team is at the rink at least 45 minutes prior to game time. Ice time is extremely tight this year and it is vital that we start on time or if the situation presents itself, we'd like to start early to avoid any kind of possibility of a game curfew.

Game Cancellation Policy

In the event of inclement weather, the ice scheduler will let the head coach or team manager via email or by posting a cancellation notice on the website. According to Southern County and Grand River Local League bylaws, only the ice scheduler, The President, Vice President of Hockey or the Rep convener have the authority to cancel the game. Coaches and Managers **DO NOT** have this authority.

Rick Schuster

AMHA Ice Scheduler

AMHA Newsletter

USED EQUIPMENT SALE



The AMHA has elected not to host a used equipment sale as in previous years. However, the association still has many used items available for purchase. If interested, please contact Jenn Culp jennc2011@hotmail.ca or Jenn Dugal jdugal6586@gmail.com to arrange a time to meet to view or donate equipment.

UNIFORM REMINDER

The Ayr Flame uniform is an important part of being a part of a team in our organization. Looking the same and being in the same uniform helps to create the team oriented mentality that makes for a team that works well together. It also is how we represent our organization when on the ice.

All Ayr Minor Hockey players are reminded to adhere to our colour scheme for all games.

Helmets, gloves and pants should be black.

Socks should be a matching pair of white socks with red and black stripes and red socks with black and white stripes for away games, as shown.

Ayr Flames socks are available for purchase at Paris Sports.



STAY TUNED FOR IP/TYKE INFO

Do you have a child playing at the IP or Tyke age group? Please keep an eye on the website in the upcoming weeks for details regarding the start of your season!

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DATES TO REMEMBER - **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

- 2nd Registration Fee Instalment - August 31
- 3rd Registration Fee Instalment – September 30
- Rep Fee Due Date – September 30
- AE Tryouts Start – September 7
- LL Evaluations Start – September 19
- Ayr AE Silverstick - December 6 through December 9

WE'RE SOCIAL

Follow us on social media for the latest AMHA info. Have something to share – Tag us!



@AYRMINORHOCKEY



@AYRMINORHOCKEY



@AYRFLAMESHOCKEY



AMHA MISSION STATEMENT: *"We are dedicated to providing the youth of Ayr a fun, rewarding and positive environment to play amateur hockey"*

AMHA MOTTO: *Hometown Proud...*

As Don Cherry would say keep your stick on the ice and your head up in the corners...

...see you at the RINK!