

Esko Youth Hockey

Welcome Packet



Welcome to Esko Hockey

This packet of information is made available to help you get started with Esko Hockey Association.

ESKO HOCKEY ASSOCIATION TEAMS:

Mini Mites, Mite 1's, Mite 2's

Esko Youth Hockey is for children up to 9 years old in the Esko School District. Mite 1's and 2's practice 2 times a week and Mini Mites once a week. Practice will start indoors on ice Esko Hockey rents until our outdoor ice is ready which is typically in December. Mite 1's typically have one away jamboree and the other jamborees are at local rinks. Mite 2's could travel a bit more, but most jamborees are within our local rinks as well. Please see our Esko Youth Hockey Association Mite Program Packet for a detailed description of our Mite Program.

Esko Hockey Registration Fees:

First Year Player

Fee: **Free!**

USA Hockey: \$46 (2013 and younger free)

MN Hockey Fee: \$10 (2013 and younger free)

Returning Player

Esko Hockey Fee: \$175 In person 2 day discount (dates will be listed on our website)
\$200 (Family Cap: \$400)

USA Hockey Fee: \$46/player (2013 and younger free)

MN Hockey Fee: \$10/player (2013 and younger free)

What do the registration fees go towards?

The USA HOCKEY Association fee goes directly to them. (The National Governing Body for the sport of hockey in the United States.) For that, each player is registered with USA Hockey Association and is covered under USA Hockey Association insurances and receives the USA Hockey Magazine.

\$10 per player gets forwarded to the Minnesota Amateur Hockey

Money paid to Esko Hockey goes to help defray the cost of indoor ice time. Each year during the months of November and December, Esko Hockey Association rents ice time from Four Season's Ice Arena in Carlton. The ice time is used by the association to conduct practices before Mother Nature allows ice to be made on the Esko Hockey Rink. This year, we will spend approximately \$3500 (sometimes more) on ice time rental. Also, maintenance on our ice cleaning and making equipment (tractors, flood hoses, snow blower, zamboni, etc.) maintenance on our hockey rinks, player's boxes, and paint.

Lastley, money goes to help defray the cost of Jamboree entry fees. Each jamboree/ tournament that Esko Hockey Association team enters into has an entrance fee for each individual teams (ie. 4 teams for one tournament at \$200 each=\$800)

First Year Parent(s)/Guardian(s): For some of the first time parents/guardians you may observe that your child might not have the same skating skills as other children on the team. PLEASE DO NOT GET DISCOURAGED. Please do not think your child is behind. REMEMBER MITE 1'S AND 2'S IS ABOUT GETTING THE CHILDREN ON THE ICE TO HAVE FUN AND TO TEACH THEM THESE SKILLS. The coaches are here to teach the children the fundamentals of hockey. By the end of the season, you and your child will be amazed at the improvements he/she has made. It is a lot of fun to record your child at the beginning of season and compare it to the end of the season to see how much they have learned. Please check out our Esko Youth Hockey Association Mite Program Packet for more information on our our Mite Program.

PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) PARTICIPATION IN THE ESKO HOCKEY PROGRAM:

As with most hockey associations in Minnesota, the parents/guardians are a big part on the success of a hockey program. The Esko Hockey Association in no exception. Throughout the hockey season you will be asked to participate in various functions such as: fundraisers, rink maintenance/flood crew, and working the concessions. More information on these will come as the season progresses. We also have an opt out option for families who cannot participate.

We are all volunteers in this organization from the Board of Directors, to the coaches, to the parents. This organization is what it is because of our volunteers. Volunteers spending their own time and effort so that all of our children can enjoy the great game of Hockey for this season and years to come.

Any improvements can be made at any time through discussion with the board, coaches, parents as with any organization is concerned. If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas please let one of the Board Members know.

PHILOSOPHY: The philosophy of the Esko Hockey Association program is, first and foremost, for the players to have fun and enjoy skating and the game of hockey. Mini-Mites, Mite 1's and 2's is about participation and creating positive attitudes towards the game of hockey.

Mission Statement: Esko Youth Hockey Association will continually strive to provide a community based, volunteer-driven program to promote participation and development of youth hockey. Esko Hockey will actively work to promote a fun, fair and safe environment for all without regard to experience or ability.

We are committed to instilling honesty, teamwork, sportsmanship and self-confidence into each participant.

The mission will be achieved through organizing our dedicated volunteers, coaches, parents and business associates that actively uphold these values.

The primary objective will be to have all the players feel increasingly better about their ability as the season progresses. This should occur not only in the areas of skill, knowledge, and fitness, but should also include qualities of character such as persistence, self-control, tolerance, respect for authority, encouragement of teammates, concentration on the tasks and teamwork.

EQUIPMENT: The Equipment needed for this Hockey Season is as follows:

- Skates
- Socks or Sweat pants
- Breezers
- Shin pads
- Cup (some players like the hockey cup shorts—they have Velcro to hold the socks along with cup)
- Elbow pads
- Shoulder pads
- Mouth Guard
- Hockey gloves
- Helmet with face mask (*PLEASE check the date on helmets to make sure they are not expired*)
- Hockey stick

* It does get a little chilly out there, so some player like thin knit gloves underneath their hockey gloves and balaclava under their helmets.

Esko Hockey does have limited amounts of equipment donated to us from USA Hockey we can give to new players. Please inquire with a board member.

COACHES: Coaches for the Esko Hockey Teams will be assigned, and you will receive this information at a later date.

SCHEDULES: The board/coaches will make a schedule for practices and games for the upcoming season. As in the past, however, there may be changes made to the schedule throughout the year. If / when this occurs, the schedule change will be communicated via email / calendar / Facebook / Team Pages.

You can also check out our website at www.eskohockey.com for any changes made to the calendar which will be updated daily.

PARTICIPATION IN PRACTICES/GAMES: Players will have scheduled practice and game dates and times. Many factors will come into play throughout the season on whether a child can attend a practice or game. For example: If it is too cold, the child is sick, or the child has other obligations. The child will not be penalized in any way for missing practices or games. You, as a parent / guardian, know what is best for your child. If your child is unable to attend practices / games, please let their coach know.

INDOOR PRACTICE: A schedule is posted on our website. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the DPD (Director of Player Development) or any board member. Practices are usually held in Carlton at Four Seasons Ice Arena. If you are unsure about any of these locations or rink(s), please contact a hockey board member or visit www.eskohockey.com for directions.

PHOTO RELEASE: Photo release was included in your online registration if you wish for your child to have or NOT have their pictures taken for various events or advertisements.

COLD WEATHER OR SNOW: Practices will be held on our outdoor ice rinks if the temperature including windchill is above -10. Snow usually does not stop practice (unless we can't keep up with the removal), but may require some snow removal help. Because we are volunteer run, we are in charge of clearing the snow and need all the help we can get. We will do our best to notify you in advance if the weather is questionable or we need to cancel.

Team Roster: There will be a list of players, parent(s) / guardian(s), and telephone numbers. Each team is also listed on our website with a schedule specific for each team.

The first reason for the list is so the coaches can contact each of you. The second reason is so Esko Hockey parents and guardians can contact each other.

Esko Hockey Parent/Guardian Network: It is hoped that throughout the season, each and everyone gets to know one another. Sometimes situations arise that you cannot get your child to and from practices / games. Please let the coaches and other parents know so that arrangements can be made to get a child to and / or from practice / games. Part of being a TEAM is Working TOGETHER! It takes a village and a Hockey Family!

ESKO HOCKEY ASSOCIATION 2019-2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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If you have any questions/concerns about any of the information in this packet or throughout the season, please contact a board member.

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