

Welcome to CCYHA!  
PO Box 201  
Meadville, PA 16335

Dear Parent,

We are excited to welcome you to the Crawford County Youth Hockey Association (CCYHA). The CCYHA program is for boys and girls of all ages, beginning with our Mini Mite division for ages 4 to 6, all the way up through our Midget division for ages 15 to 18. We support safety, teamwork and cooperation through mutual respect, sharing of skills, knowledge and responsibilities. Most of all, our program provides a foundation for fun, lifetime friendships for the whole family and continuous improvement at an economical price.

Our season runs from September through March, with up to 3.5 hours of ice time per week (depending on age division), devoted to practices and games. Cost varies based on your division and the level of competitiveness at which you wish to participate, with easy payment plans available. Our In-House League is an instructional, fun environment in which to learn skating and hockey skills, positioning, play development and game knowledge for all skill levels. Each division is divided into equal teams that play weekly games throughout the season competing for the In-House Championship. In addition, each team practices together to learn and increase knowledge and skills of hockey fundamentals and effective game practices and strategies.

For those of you that take hockey “a bit more seriously”, we offer Travel League play for each age level, starting with the Squirts (ages 9 and 10). This is a more competitive league designed for competition outside of the CCYHA organization. The divisions vary from formal league play in the Pittsburgh Amateur Hockey League (PAHL), and tournament play, to informal match-ups with teams from the surrounding areas. Although this is a more competitive level of play, CCYHA and its coaches realize for any program to be effective, a balance between having fun, developing skills and teamwork is essential.

CCYHA also offers a Night Owl Hockey League for adult men and women that want to participate in the exciting game of hockey! The Night Owl League has grown from its beginnings as a Sunday night pick-up league to a six-team league with over 70 players. It is open to players of all skill levels, from beginners to the more advanced. For more information see our website at [www.ccyha.net](http://www.ccyha.net) and select the NOHL button in the menu.

Lastly, CCYHA provides a “Learn to Skate for Hockey” program for the young skaters with no experience on the ice. This is strictly a developmental and instructional program to teach children the fundamentals of skating for hockey. Full hockey equipment is not necessary, just skates, helmet and sticks. This is a fun, introductory program for children to “check out” the game of hockey. Arrangements for this program are incomplete at this time. As more information becomes available, we will post it on our website.

Parents are encouraged to get involved in CCYHA by volunteering whenever possible. Our association is run entirely by volunteers and volunteers are needed in all areas including coaching. Your efforts will be greatly appreciated by the players, the board members and your fellow volunteers.

Fundraising is also a vital part of our organization. You will be asked to participate in a yearly fundraiser. This changes from year to year but in the past has included selling candy bars and raffle tickets. You can choose not to participate in the fundraiser by paying a buyout price equal to the amount you would have raised for the CCYHA if you had participated in the fundraiser.

We hope to make all of the families joining us feel comfortable and well informed throughout this season. If there is a question or concern that this packet does not address, please feel free to speak to your child's coach or to contact one of the board members. Have a great season!

Our web address is [www.ccyha.net](http://www.ccyha.net). On it we have posted upcoming events, minutes from the previous month's board meeting, important news, and a monthly calendar. You can also contact board members through the About Us link. The Board of Directors meets on the first Monday of each month and parents are welcome to attend. You can check the website for the time and location of upcoming meetings.

The board consists of 19 members who are elected into the position either yearly or every two years, depending on the position. Elections are held in February and we encourage parents to participate. Your current board of directors is:

President	Jodi Millin	<a href="mailto:jodi.millin@gmail.com">jodi.millin@gmail.com</a>
Vice-President	George Ray	<a href="mailto:ray@associatedcontractors.net">ray@associatedcontractors.net</a>
Secretary	Bobbi Jo DeCrapio	<a href="mailto:bdecrapio@nutec-inc.com">bdecrapio@nutec-inc.com</a>
Treasurer	Julie Passilla	<a href="mailto:citylimits@zoominternet.net">citylimits@zoominternet.net</a>
Assistant Treasurer	Pam Bacallao	<a href="mailto:pambac@zoominternet.net">pambac@zoominternet.net</a>
Director of Recruitment	Bill Scheppelman	<a href="mailto:shep164@windstream.net">shep164@windstream.net</a>
Director of Coaches	Bob Stein	<a href="mailto:raven_47@windstream.net">raven_47@windstream.net</a>
Director of Officials	Kyle Janes	<a href="mailto:km.janes@gmail.com">km.janes@gmail.com</a>
Ways and Means	Michelle Higham	<a href="mailto:higham@zoominternet.net">higham@zoominternet.net</a>
Media Director	Heather Jager	<a href="mailto:jager6@zoominternet.net">jager6@zoominternet.net</a>
NOHL Commissioner	Mike Moore	<a href="mailto:mooreinsurance@tbscc.com">mooreinsurance@tbscc.com</a>
Director at Large	Lisa Betts	<a href="mailto:lbetts@stairwaysbh.com">lbetts@stairwaysbh.com</a>
Director at Large	Phil Passilla	<a href="mailto:philjr@penncotool.com">philjr@penncotool.com</a>
Director at Large	Doug Hanaway	<a href="mailto:doughan@zoominternet.net">doughan@zoominternet.net</a>
Director at Large	Brian Ford	<a href="mailto:fords@zoominternet.net">fords@zoominternet.net</a>
Director at Large	Mike Webber	<a href="mailto:mwebber@allegheny.edu">mwebber@allegheny.edu</a>
Director at Large	Open	
Director at Large	Jeff Millin	<a href="mailto:jmillin@shaferlaw.com">jmillin@shaferlaw.com</a>
Director at Large	Kevin Jacobs	<a href="mailto:jacobs65@windstream.net">jacobs65@windstream.net</a>

CCYHA is made up of 6 **divisions**. The division your child plays in is based on the year of their birth.

Mini-Mites are players ages 4-6 (Birth year 2003 and under)

Mites are players age 8 & under (2001 & 2002)

Squirts are players age 10 & under (1999 & 2000)

Pee Wees are players age 12 & under (1997 & 1998)

Bantams are players age 14 & under (1995 & 1996)

Midgets are players age 18 & under (1992, 1993 & 1994)

**Hockey equipment can be purchased locally at:**

North Coast Hockey  
837 West 38<sup>th</sup> St  
Erie, PA 16508  
814.864.0781

Erie Sports Store  
1950 Rotunda Dr  
Erie, PA 16509  
814.866.0200

Dick's  
2088 Interchange Rd  
Erie, PA 16565  
814.864.3500

CCYHA holds an annual skate swap in September. This is a good opportunity to purchase and sell used hockey equipment at discounted prices. Check the website for the exact date and time.

Hockey equipment you will need:

Helmet	Shoulder/chest protector
Neck guard	Elbow pads
Gloves	Knee/shin pads
Pants	Mouth guard
Stick	Skates
Practice jersey	Socks
Hockey bag	Athletic supporter
Hockey tape	

CCYHA has *limited quantities of equipment* for rent that are given out on a first-come, first-served basis and is reserved for first year players. This equipment includes:

Pants	Neck guard
Shoulder/chest protector	Elbow pads
Gloves	Knee/shin pads
Bag	

All other equipment is to be provided by the player. Some guidelines for buying equipment:

**Mouth Guard:** preferably a moldable one. **MUST** be worn while player is on the ice. Guard should be checked regularly for wear and breakage and replaced as needed.

**Stick:** should be cut to reach the height of the player's nose while wearing shoes. When wearing skates the stick should be chin height. Hockey stores will cut and wrap stick for you when you purchase one. Wood or composite sticks are both acceptable. First year players should purchase a straight stick.

**Skates:** should be purchased a size smaller than player's shoe size or properly fitted by the store where purchased. They should be laced and tied as tightly as possible without causing pain. Have the blades sharpened before first use and then after every 15 uses. The following places will sharpen skate blades:

Erie Sports Store

North Coast Hockey

Ralston's Hardware-call ahead during Bulldog Hockey season

MARC

Indoor Outfitters-call ahead during hunting season

**Helmet:** must have a cage. It is very important to have helmet properly fitted by the store you purchase it from.

**Gloves:** must be worn to prevent injury. If you can't find a pair small enough, you can wear snow gloves (the stretchy kind work best) under the hockey gloves. Gloves can also be taped on using hockey tape to avoid them slipping off.

**Jock shorts/athletic supporter:** Player **MUST** have. We recommend the Itech jock shorts with the built-in athletic supporter and Velcro strips to hold up the socks. If you prefer, any standard athletic supporter can be used, but you will have to purchase garters to hold up the socks.

**Practice Jersey and Socks:** any color or style of your choice to be worn at practice. Team jerseys will be provided for games. Socks will not be provided.

**Hockey tape:** a few rolls will get you through the season. Use it to secure your equipment however necessary and to wrap your stick. A large amount at the end of a hockey stick makes it easier for the player to pick it up off the ice with their gloves on. Don't use white tape as it will cause the end of the stick to blend in with the ice, making it harder to see.

**Hockey bag:** any type of duffel bag large enough to store your equipment to prevent lost or mixed-up items in the locker room. They also make bags specifically designed for hockey equipment.

### Helpful Information:

Players interested in playing goalie should let their coach know. We are always in need of volunteers for this position. Second year mini-mites will have the opportunity to try it for at least one game per season.

Please arrive 15-20 minutes before practice starts.

Please use the locker rooms, not the lobby, to get dressed.

Locker room A is reserved for girls only.

Be ready and waiting in full gear rink-side for your practice to start.

Players are not allowed on the ice until the rink clock says the exact starting time of your practice.

Players may enter the ice from any of the doors but doors must remain closed during practice.

Spectators can watch from the bleachers, the lobby, rink-side, or from the skybox. Be sure to use only the stairs on the far side of the rink as the other set is a fire exit and an alarm will sound if door is opened. Please be sure lights are off and chairs are put away when finished with the skybox. You may **not** stand on either platform leading to or exiting from the skybox.

Spectators may not sit on player's benches at any time.

If a player needs their parent, the coach will bring them to you. Please refrain from speaking to your child while they are on the ice. If they are easily distracted by your presence, we suggest that you observe from inside the lobby. Players learn more when they are focused on their coaches instead of their parents. This is especially true of first year players. They will, at times, become frustrated. This is a normal part of learning hockey. Your child's coach will handle it and let you know if they need your assistance.

Please wait until after practice to speak to your child's coach with any questions or concerns.

Parents must learn to run the game clock and will be asked to do so for at least one of your child's games per season. You will also be asked to learn how to fill out the score sheets.

Name plates that can be sewn onto your child's game jersey can be ordered from Stitch Art (814-382-2702). They should be black with white letters or white with black letters. These are optional. The plates will have to be removed from the jersey at the end of the season when you hand in your uniform.

You can order a wide variety of our logo-wear from Stitch Art or from our website.

Elections are held yearly for the Board of Directors. All parents are eligible to run for a position and to cast votes during the election.