

**Winchester Youth Hockey**  
**P O Box 145**  
**Winchester, MA 01890**  
[www.winchesteryouthhockey.com](http://www.winchesteryouthhockey.com)

September 2008

Dear Winchester Parent,

Winchester Youth Hockey's popular Learn to Skate and Learn to Play Hockey Programs will begin in October.

The Learn to Skate Program is for boys and girls age 4 and up who would like to learn the fundamentals of ice-skating. This program is an excellent introductory program for children interested in both hockey and figure skating. No previous skating experience is necessary. A certified skating instructor will run the program.

There will be two nine-week sessions of Learn to Skate. Each session will cost \$150 and the cost for both sessions will be \$225. The first session will meet on Oct 25, Nov 1, Nov 8, Nov 15, Nov 22, Nov 29, Dec 6, Dec 13 and Dec 20. The second session will meet on Jan 10, Jan 17, Jan 24, Jan 31, Feb 7, Feb 14, Feb 21, Feb 28 and March 7. If there's a cancellation due to poor weather there will be an additional session on March 14. All sessions are held at the Flynn Rink in Medford at 3:00 PM. The Board of Directors of WYH strongly recommends that all children who wish to participate in Learn to Play Hockey in 2009-2010 attend both sessions of Learn to Skate this season.

The Learn to Play Hockey Program is for boys and girls age 4-8 (the oldest birth year allowed is **2000**) who have some previous skating experience and wish to learn the fundamentals of ice hockey. The program consists of two practices per week and one game. The practices will be mostly at the Flynn Rink in Medford on Tuesday or Thursday at 5 PM and occasionally on Saturday afternoons. There may be a small number of practices at other facilities. The practices will begin in mid October. The games, which begin in November, are played on Sunday mornings at the Flynn Rink. The total cost per player for this program is \$770. The program ends in early March 2008.

This program is designed to give your child his/her first hockey experience. The focus is on fun and skill development. We do not emphasize winning and the league does not keep standings. The first six or so games will consist of cross-ice hockey. This is where the children play on half the rink typically in a four on four setting. Cross-ice hockey is the USA Hockey approved format for very young children. As the children get more comfortable on the rink the games will become "full ice". The last few games of the season will be played with USA Hockey certified referees.

To register for Learn to Skate or Learn to Play Hockey please go to our web site (<http://www.winchesteryouthhockey.com/>) and click on "make an online payment". If you are new to Winchester Youth Hockey you must then "join" the web site. Once you've joined the web site you may register your child/children. You will be required to pay a registration fee. This is not an additional fee. For example, if you register and your child participates in Learn to Play Hockey the registration fee is \$125 and your remaining balance due will be \$645.

Learn to Play Hockey requires a full set of ice hockey equipment. Children participating in Learn to Skate are required to have a hockey helmet with facemask (a bike helmet is not acceptable) and something to protect the hands. Elbow pads and knee pads (hockey or roller blade) are recommended but not mandatory.

If you have any questions about any of this please contact me at any time.

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**Established: 1954**

**Celebrating Over 50 Years of Service to the Youth of Winchester**