

Winchester Youth Hockey
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September 2009

Winchester Youth Hockey has a number of hockey/skating programs beginning in the months of October and November. Please read the following for further information on these exciting programs for our youngsters, including the introduction of a new, In-House Recreational Program. Of course, these four programs are in addition to our traditional, full-time Boys and Girls Travel Programs. For the most part, the travel programs are full for the coming season, as Placements for these teams occurred in March, 2009. However, there are still a few opportunities, on specific teams, to join our Travel Program. If interested, please contact President David Hennessey directly.

******REGISTRATION FOR ALL THESE PROGRAMS WILL OPEN, VIA OUR WEBSITE, ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2009.....**

Winchester Youth Hockey 2009-2010 Programs

← Less Experience More Experience →

	Learn to Skate	Intro to Hockey*	Learn to Play Hockey	In House Hockey
Basic Concept	Skating instruction for children who do not know how to skate.	Introduction to hockey for those not sure about taking the next step. 8 sessions only.	First level of organized hockey. Most travel players began their hockey playing here.	This program is for those with skating experience who do not wish to participate in travel hockey.
Ages	Boys and Girls 4-10	Boys and Girls 4-10	Boys and Girls 4-8	Boys and Girls 9-12**
Schedule	Sat afternoon. Two 9-week sessions starting in late Oct.	8 sessions on Saturday afternoons in Fall/Winter	Three skates per week from mid Oct to early March.	Two skates per week from early Nov. to early March.
Cost	\$150 for one session; \$225 for both sessions.	\$40	\$770	TBD (around \$500)
Other Info	This is not hockey. It is skating lessons for new skaters.	This program is for those not sure about hockey. Limited to 40 children. All receive a free equipment package.	Skating experience is required. This program is essentially a prerequisite to travel hockey	In House recreational hockey for those who do not wish to play travel hockey. Monday practice and Sat. morning game.

*This option is not available to those who participated in this program last season.

** 8 and under should participate in Learn to Play Hockey not In House Hockey.

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 24, Oct 31, Nov 7, Nov 14, Nov 21, Nov 28, Dec 5, Dec 12 and Dec 19. The second session will meet on Jan 9, Jan 16, Jan 23, Jan 30, Feb 6, Feb 13, Feb 20, Feb 27 and March 6. If there's a cancellation due to poor weather there will be an additional session on March 13. 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 for the first time in 2010-2011 attend both sessions of Learn to Skate this season.

The Intro to Hockey Program enters its second year, again subsidized by a special grant from the Mass Hockey/Mike Cheever Foundation. The program will meet for 8 sessions, on alternating Saturdays, starting in mid-November. The program is designed for children ages 4 – 10, with some skating experience but no prior hockey experience, who want a “sample” of hockey before committing to our bigger programs. This program is limited to the first 40 registrants and includes a basic set of equipment (note: limit of two equipment packages per family). Each child may participate in this special program only one time; those who participated last year are not eligible for this program again this year.

The Learn to Play Hockey Program is for boys and girls age 4-8 (the oldest birth year allowed is **2001**) 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 Saturday mornings at Harvard University. There may be a small number of practices at other facilities. The practices will begin in early 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 2010.

This program is designed to provide your child with his/her first step into organized hockey. 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.

The In-House Recreational Program is **a new addition to our program offerings** this year and will begin in mid-October. The program is geared toward children aged 8 – 12 (for this year = birth years 1997, 98, 99 and 2000) with previous skating/hockey experience, who prefer not to make the commitment to full-time travel hockey. A group practice will be held on Monday nights at HockeyTown in Saugus and in-house games will be played on Saturday mornings at the Holland Rink in Woburn. Cost is TBD, but will likely be around \$500.

To register for any one of these programs, please go to our web site (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 and the In-House Recreational Programs require 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. A partial equipment package is included for participants in our Intro to Hockey Program.

If you have any questions, please contact me at any time.

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