



## MYHA New Family FAQs

### When will I find out about new family registration and first practices?

**New Family Registration: Wednesday, September 21, 5:30-7 pm, located at the Dunn Co Hockey Arena.** At this time your new skater(s) will be fitted and provided hockey equipment. Please register online prior to this date. This is also a time to ask more detailed questions on fundraising, volunteer hours, practices, etc...

Once you register online and provide email addresses to our association, MYHA will begin to send you communications on our associations' activities, important event dates, schedules, etc...You may also refer directly to our website <http://menomonie.pucksystems.com/> to look for information such as ice schedule. Once a team manager is assigned to your player group, they will also begin to share team-specific information. We typically begin practices within the first week or two of October. LTS practice is usually Sunday afternoon and Wednesday evenings weekly. A new parent orientation will be scheduled a few weeks earlier to explain our program, meet other new parents, coaches, and team manager. At this time, we also provide your new player with equipment. See below "What gear do I need to buy?" as a new player.

### How do I dress my child in their gear?

If you need assistance in getting your skater prepared for hockey, your coaches and other team parents can help. It's a good idea to put shin pads, groin protection, socks, breezers/hockey pants on first and then move to skates, elbow pads, and shoulder pads next. Save the helmet and mouthguard for last just before going on the ice.

### What gear do I need to buy?

If you're a first year skater, there is a great deal of equipment available for you to use at no charge. You will need to get a **pair of skates** and it is highly recommended to go with used skates due to cost. You will also need to purchase a **mouth guard** and **groin protection as appropriate**. The last item is to make sure to pick up a **hockey stick** for your child to use. Where ever you choose to go, someone at the store can help you get the right one. More specific equipment needs are listed in the answer to the previous question. As with anything hockey related, please feel free to talk with your coaches, team managers, or MYHA board members.

**\*Special Equipment Message\***

**MYHA asks that if you need to purchase gloves, breezers, and/or helmets to please purchase in black to coordinate with overall team colors. Thank You!!**

## **What does a team manager do?**

Team managers are key to a successful season for any team. They help with scheduling, communication, organizing team activities, and just about everything off ice. They will enlist skater parents to help do the various activities that need to get done. Some more specific examples include helping to coordinate hotel stays for overnight tournaments, game scheduling, communication of weekly practices/games, helping to notify the team of last minute schedule changes, scheduling team/parent meetings, schedule rink cleaning, and many other items. The key is to understand they coordinate most of this but they don't do it all. They often solicit skater parents to help.

## **What can I expect at practices?**

MYHA has adopted the American Development Model ([admkids.com](http://admkids.com)) and this model focuses on development. There will be a greater focus on age appropriate skill development and better ice time utilization. You can expect stacked practices 1 x per week. This means that multiple teams will share the ice and work on drills that develop the basic skills of skating, stickhandling, passing, and shooting.

## **Can my younger children come attend/watch practices?**

Yes, siblings are welcome, provided they are being supervised at the rink. The bleachers or the concession area have seating available.

## **Am I expected to stay at the rink during practices?**

For first year and LTS skaters, it's a good idea. You can get a better idea of what your child experiences in practice and you'll get to know the other parents and coaches. For more experienced skaters, it may not be necessary.

## **What if my MYHA equipment breaks? Who should I contact?**

Troy & Kris Wilkens are the MYHA equipment managers. Many of the coaches or parents around can do some minor repairs. Please also feel free to contact any MYHA board member for assistance.

## **How frequently and where should I sharpen my child's skates?**

Once a month is suggested at the lower levels, more frequently as skaters get older. There are a few places in town that provide this service, including Simple Sports on Main Street in downtown. It really comes down to personal preference but monthly is a good starting point for younger skaters.

## **What can I expect for volunteer and fundraising requirements?**

### **Cleaning**

Each team is responsible for cleaning the rink after games/tournaments. There is a job list of duties to complete.

## **Wreaths/Charity Mania**

Please refer to the Registration and Fee Information on our web site.

## **Home tournaments**

Each team is responsible for assigning parents to different duties to run the rink for a tournament. These hours do not count toward your required assessment hours. It is expected that you help where you can.

## **Required *work assessment* or *volunteer* hours**

These terms are used interchangeably. All families are required to complete 30 hours per skater (max 60 per family) for LTS second year and beyond. There are a variety of ways to get your hours. There is also a buyout option however we strongly encourage your assistance since this organization is based solely on volunteers. Please refer to the MYHA New and Returning Families Registration document on our website (registration section) for detailed information.

## **Required concession hours**

Each family is required to complete a minimum amount of hours in the concession stand. Please refer to the MYHA New and Returning Families Registration document on our website (registration section) for detailed information. Some families get the majority of their hours through the concession stand.

## **How do I find out about these requirements?**

There are many different opportunities listed on our website at any given time. You will also be receiving emails from the association and opportunities will be listed there. Please also feel free to reach out to MYHA board members and your team manager.

**How do I sign up for volunteer hours?** MYHA uses Volunteer Spot to manage our volunteer hour opportunities.

## **Who should I go to with questions or concerns?**

Team managers, coaches, and board members are all there to help answer your questions. If they can't, hopefully they can direct you to the correct person.

**Whom should I go to with concerns?** The first step would be to ask the coach and manager. The monthly board meetings are open to all members. The first part of every meeting is for

member comments and feedback. Schedule is on the website, and we generally meet the first Monday of each month at 7 pm at the rink.

## **What is the Ice Board?**

The ice board is responsible for the physical structure and management of the rink. They are the 'business' side of MYHA.

## **What are playdowns?**

Playdowns are tournaments or playoffs. You may hear of playdowns later in the season. Sometimes we host playdowns or tournaments at our rink and will be looking for help to staff those events.

## **How do I find out if practices are cancelled?**

Coaches and managers will get emails for team members and communicate that way. When known, information will be put on the webpage and our Facebook page.

## **What is dryland?**

Dryland is hockey practices and drills that can be done off ice. Your children will have dry land practices this year. Coaches have been asked to ensure that these are scheduled before or after an on ice practice with the intent of not having families being required to spend another night at the rink.

## **Ice Schedule**

Please go to our website to view the ice schedule. [www.menomonie.pucksystems.com](http://www.menomonie.pucksystems.com)

## **Questions?**

[www.menomonie.pucksystems.com](http://www.menomonie.pucksystems.com) is your first stop

Each board member can be contacted via email from the website.

Please like us on Facebook as well.