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AHA Monthly Newsletter

Developing a Love for the Game



SUMMER HAS PAST, FALL IS HERE &

AHA HOCKEY IS BACK!

New Beginnings in the Blue & Gold

Anchorage North Star Tryouts, 10U Comet Evals, and 8U Red Little Dipper Evals were all held in the month August, and it was exciting to see all the smiles on the players faces as they competed, and had fun trying to earn their spots to wear the Blue and Gold this season.

The players aren't the only ones who have new beginnings in the Blue & Gold this season. AHA made a few hirings to help boost the experience and overall product for the Anchorage Hockey Association and it's great members. In July, Matt Thompson was hired as AHA's Executive Director, and in August Cassi Campbell was hired as the new AHA Goalie Program Director! Both have strong roots in AHA growing up in Anchorage, and playing their youth hockey for the Anchorage North Stars. You can find contact information for all of our AHA staff and program directors on the AHA website.

[AHA Staff and Program Director Contact Link](#)

Alaska 529 Provides Big Support for our youth Athletes!

Those of you who have already received your jerseys for this season, you may have noticed an Alaska 529 patch on the right shoulder. That's because Alaska 529 has graciously sponsored AHA for the upcoming season, and will be a huge help in AHA providing the services to help develop our athletes and continue to grow their passion for the game of hockey. Alaska 529 is an education savings plan designed to make it easy for parents and loved ones to save for education. Like us, they are invested in trying to help provide a path for success for our young alaskan youth. Please check out their website, and start saving now.

[Alaska 529 Website Link](#)



"Save in Alaska, Study Anywhere"



The Great Alaska Duck Race

The race to the Great Alaska Duck Race is on and thriving. Our youth athletes, teams, and families are working hard to sell tickets for the upcoming rubber ducky race that will be held on Saturday September 9th, down at Ship Creek in downtown Anchorage. The Great Alaskan Duck Race is Alaska's premier statewide fundraising event for local non profits and community organizations. 50% of the proceeds from each ticket sale will go directly to the organization of your choice!

So make sure you get out there and buy or sell some tickets to help support our youth!



www.anchoragehockey.com

NAME THAT FORMER PLAYER

Do you recognize these two former AHA hockey players?

Hint 1: One has been a long time hockey coach and can help you with all of your hockey equipment needs.

Hint 2: One is a 2 time Stanley Cup Champion.

Hint 3: They both have had a major impact on growing the game of hockey in Anchorage.



THE PUCK STOPS HERE WITH THE AHA GOALIE CLINICS!

The AHA goalie clinics have officially been scheduled! Beginning in end of October, AHA will be holding its goalie clinics every Saturday morning (Except for the holiday and tournament weekends). 14U & Over will be held from 7:30am to 8:15am, followed by 12U and Under from 8:15am - 9:00am at Dempsey Anderson Arena. The plan is to create a community feel with all of our goalies in our association, and provide them with the detailed coaching necessary for playing one of the coolest and most exciting positions in the game of hockey! The AHA goalie camp will be free for all of our AHA goaltenders and AHA shooters!

Keep your eye on your inboxes for additional information on how to rsvp for this seasons age specific AHA goalie clinic. Please contact our AHA Director of Goaltending, Cassi Campbell, with any questions.



AHA Out Giving Back

The 12U Majors Give Back in a Major Way

This past weekend, the 12U Major North Star team participated in the Weekend Backpack Program at the Food Bank of Alaska. The program sets up lunch bags for food insecure students so that they can take them home from school over the weekend. They did an awesome job during the event, utilizing teamwork and camaraderie to help pack nearly 1,000 bags of food for students in our Anchorage community. The Weekend Backpack Program is new this year, marking AHA as the first group to participate in the charitable event! Check out the Food Bank of Alaska's webpage if you'd like to find ways to give back.

[Food Bank of Alaska](http://www.foodbankofalaska.org)



Former North Stars Advancing to College Hockey

Four former Anchorage North Stars are moving on to College hockey this season.

- **Revy Mack** - Middlebury College (NCAA DIII)
- **Teague Porter** - Wilkes University (NCAA DIII)
- **Jakub Hall** - Potsdam State University (NCAA DIII)
- **Landon Reed** - University of Northern Colorado (ACHA II)

All four of these athletes were apart of the last Anchorage North Star National Championship team in 2019. Can't wait to follow their success at the college hockey levels!





UPCOMING EVENTS FOR OUR

AHA HOCKEY PROGRAMS



AHA Comets Hockey

Comets Hockey is getting ready to kick off, with **Tune Up Skates** being held September 5th & 7th at Dempsey Anderson Arena. 10U-12U players will be from 5:45pm - 6:45pm, followed by the 14U-18U from 7:00pm - 8:00pm.

The **Rec A Evaluations** will be held September 11th - 13th for the 12U, 12U Girls, 14U, 14U Girls, 16U, and 18U. All information about the Tune Up Skates and Rec A Evaluations can be found at the link below.

[AHA Comets Hockey Information & Registrations](#)



North Stars Hockey

September will be a month of getting the North Star teams in the full swing of the hockey season. A month full of practices and season opening games. The 10U teams have their first games officially scheduled in mid September, which means this will be many of the players first time wearing the North Star sweater! The first AHA monthly Girls Skate will be held September 17th at Dempsey Anderson Arena, from 12:15pm - 1:15pm. The monthly girls skate is once a month, and is open to all girls ages 4-10 years old!

The 18U team has a bunch of games locked in for next month as they will be getting built for competition heading into the Termination Dust Tournament in October. Their first big test is scheduled for September 8th, against the Team Alaska 16U Tier 1 team. That same day, September 8th, the 14U Girls have a competitive match up against the 14U All Star Girls. This month is jam packed with action! Good luck to all of our teams!



Little Dippers Hockey

The Little Dipper 8U Reds will be continuing their weekly practices in September. Honing their skills and continuing to find a love for all the fun that hockey will offer. I am sure after this month, they will be eager to play hockey multiple times a week again. 6U, 8U White, and 8U Blue will kick off their seasons in October.

[Little Dipper Information Link](#)



Anchorage SeaPups

AHA is excited to expand our Learn to Skate & Learn to Play program to two locations for the upcoming season! The new program will begin in October, and families can choose to participate in SeaPups South at the Dimond Center, or the new SeaPups East at UAA. The program is a twice a week program that will provide an environment for all players to progress at a pace comfortable to them, and with kids at their own skill level. [Anchorage Seapups Information Link](#)



AHA Program & Family Gear Sale!



Termination Dust Tournament

October 7th-9th - 14U, 16U, 18U
October 12th - 15th - 10U, 12U, 14U Girls, & 16U/19U

[Termination Dust Registration Link](#)

Gear Up For the 23/24 Season!

Saturday, Sep 9th from 10am-3pm in the Ben Boeke Parking Lot.

Want to consign something? - Drop it off before 10am and we will split the sale with you.
Want to donate something? - Got some gear someone else can use? Contact an AHA board member and we will add your items to our sale.

Payments Accepted: Card, Cash, Check

All proceeds will support the AHA Goalie Gear Lending Program