



# **2012 International Ice Hockey Challenge Overview**

Klagenfurt, Austria  
August 1-9, 2026

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## Introduction

This document is intended to offer general information about the 2026 International Ice Hockey Challenge (IIHC) in Klagenfurt, Austria. The information included in this document is accurate at the time of writing, but plans are subject to change based on many factors that are outside our control. We will keep families informed as plans are finalized.

## Registration Fees

The team registration fee includes the following:

- Round-trip airfare
- Transportation in Europe
- Lodging
- Meals
- Home and away jerseys and socks
- Player “swag”
- Mini-Camp
- Practices & games
- Team activities

The registration fee for this event will be \$4,200. Payment can be made in full by January 15, 2026, or families can make a non-refundable deposit of 1/4 of the final cost by January 15, 2026, and pay the remaining balance in three equal installments on March 15, May 15, and July 15. Please contact us if you wish to make alternative payment arrangements.

## Tournament Preparation

Players attending the International Ice Hockey Challenge are expected to attend the Mini-Camp scheduled for Saturday, July 18, 2026 (included in player fees) as well as the 2012 Training & Development Camp scheduled for Monday, July 13 and Tuesday, July 14 (additional fee). We will hold a parent/guardian meeting on the day of the Mini-Camp.

## Team Assignments

We will send two teams to the International Ice Hockey Challenge, and players will be placed on teams based on the players' performance at the 2026 Training & Development Camp and Mini-Camp. Our goal is to make two equal teams, and we cannot accommodate any placement requests.

## Travel

**FLIGHTS** The registration fee includes round-trip airfare from Philadelphia International Airport (PHL) to Venice Marco Polo Airport (VCE).

Please note that because we are booking as a group, flights are non-refundable and non-transferable.

Players must travel to Europe with the team, with absolutely **no exceptions**. We will release players to their parents/guardians after the tournament upon request, but in such cases, parents/guardians will be responsible for arranging their player's travel back to the United States. Because our flights are being booked as a group, we cannot issue any discounts or refunds for players who do not travel home with the team.

Note that we are unable to take responsibility for the equipment of any player not flying home with the team. Families staying in Europe after the tournament will be responsible for getting their equipment home by either shipping it at their own expense or bringing it with them. We can take players' sticks with us if families arrange for someone to retrieve them from the airport.

The flight is approximately 8-9 hours long, and players should bring whatever they will need to be comfortable on a flight of that duration including motion sickness medication, neck pillows, blankets, earbuds, reading materials, and snacks. Players should try to sleep on the flight to Europe because we will have a full day upon our arrival.

The staff will meet the players at the stateside airport approximately 4 hours before their scheduled departure time. Coaches will collect all travel documents including passports, signed and notarized Consent to Travel with a Minor forms, and signed and notarized Assignment of Responsibility forms upon arrival, and they will distribute these documents to players as needed.

**LUGGAGE** Players should pack as lightly as possible as we have very limited space for luggage and equipment on the bus. Each player will be permitted to bring just their AAHA-issued backpack, an AAHA-issued carry-on, and a hockey bag. Players may bring two sticks that are securely taped together; they should not bring their own stick bags as we will put all the sticks together in large stick bags. Players must attach the provided luggage tags to their luggage, which will help us to identify our group's items. Any necessary items such as medication should be packed in the players' carry-on bags.

**BUS** The players will travel by bus from Venice to Klagenfurt. At the end of the trip, players will travel by bus from Klagenfurt to Venice on Saturday and from their Venice hotel to the airport on Sunday.

**TRAVEL DOCUMENTS** Please note that all players must bring a valid passport on this trip. **Passports must have at least 6 months remaining validity upon departure, so if your player's passport expires on or after February 1, 2027, it must be renewed before the trip.** Please note that we need to collect players' passport numbers well in advance, so you should aim to have your player's passport in hand as early as possible and no later than May 1, 2026. The US State Department website states that it may take up to ten weeks to process passport applications excluding mailing time, so please plan accordingly. Every family must provide a Consent for Travel with a Minor and an Assignment of Responsibility form signed by both parents/guardians (when applicable) and notarized, even if one or both parents/guardians plan to travel to Europe on the same flight as the team.

**SPECTATORS** Parents/guardians and other fans may attend practices and games. However, due to space and logistical constraints, only players and staff will be included in all team activities. Additional travelers will be responsible for making their own travel, lodging, meal, and sightseeing arrangements.

## Hotel

In Austria we will stay at the Ibis Styles Klagenfurt am Woertheseesee, located at Viktringer Ring 28, 9020 Klagenfurt am Woertheseesee, Austria. The coaches will assign players to rooming pairs and we are unable to accept rooming requests.

## Itinerary

*ARRIVAL* We will go directly to Klagenfurt upon our arrival in Europe.

*PRACTICES* All practices and games will take place at Klagenfurt Eissportzentrum, which is within easy walking distance of the hotel. Players will have a dedicated locker room where they will be permitted to leave their equipment for the duration of the tournament.

*TOURNAMENT GAMES* Games are tentatively scheduled to start on Tuesday, and teams will play at least one game every day. The finals are scheduled to take place on Friday. The schedule is subject to change depending on the number of teams participating in the tournament.

*MEALS* All breakfasts will be eaten at the hotel, and all lunches will be at the rink. We will have dinner at a local restaurant each day.

*SIGHTSEEING* We will schedule various activities for the players; past activities have included a falconry demonstration, a zipline and ropes course, a visit to Castle Hochosterwitz, and a trip to Tower Pyramidenkogel. We will stay in Klagenfurt on Friday night, and we will take the bus to Venice Saturday morning where we will spend the day sightseeing.

## Player Dress Code

- Players will receive IIHC-specific apparel during the Mini-Camp and additional Player Development apparel during the 2012 Training & Development Camp.
- Each team will be asked to wear different color shirts at all team activities including flights. Players must wear their assigned colors to help the coaches keep track of them.
- Each item of apparel should have the player's IIHC jersey number written in permanent marker on the tag so that we can return them if we do laundry.
- Players must wear khaki pants/shorts and their team golf shirt for the flights.
- Players must wear their Atlantic District t-shirts and baseball caps for all team activities.
- Players must wear khaki pants/shorts, team golf shirt, and shoes (no sneakers) to all practices and games. They should bring sneakers and off-ice warmup clothing with them.
- During practices and games, players will wear their team jerseys and matching socks. While it is not mandatory, we prefer for players to wear a black helmet and black pants or a black shell.

## Player Expectations

- Players should take pride in being among the small number of players selected to represent USA Hockey and the Atlantic District Player Development Program at this event, and they should be mindful that what they do reflects on the group.
- In addition to evaluating players' on-ice performance, coaches will be evaluating players' attitudes and conduct. We are looking for players to be responsible, cooperative, respectful, punctual, coachable, engaged, prepared, hard-working, and supportive of their teammates.
- Our program must maintain a good reputation and strong relationships with event organizers and the Klagenfurt community so that we will continue to be invited in the future. Players should be polite, clean up after themselves, speak at an appropriate volume for the setting, and avoid disturbing others.
- Coaches will perform room checks every night. Players are expected to be in their own rooms by curfew, and they must stay in their own rooms for the night.

## Before We Leave

**PLAYER REGISTRATION** When registering for the IIHC, please note if your player has dual citizenship. Also, please be sure to enter the player's name **as it appears on their passport**, including their middle name if they have one, when registering.

**TRAVEL DOCUMENTS** As noted earlier, your player's passport must have at least six months' remaining validity. *If a player's passport has less than six months remaining validity, they may not be permitted to travel with the group.* Each family must provide a Consent for Travel with a Minor form that has been signed by both parents/guardians (when applicable) and notarized. Families also must provide a signed and notarized Assignment of Responsibility Form in the event we need to obtain medical care for your player while in Europe. We will provide you with the necessary "Responsible Adult" information a few weeks before departure. You should check with your health insurance carrier to ensure that your policy offers coverage abroad. About two weeks before departure, we will send parents/guardians the final ticketing list; it is critically important that you carefully review your player's information for accuracy and notify us immediately of any errors.

**CURRENCY EXCHANGE** Players will need some cash while in Europe. Families may want to purchase some Euros at their bank, keeping in mind that if the bank does not have Euros on hand it can take up to two weeks to get them. There is a bank and an ATM near the hotel, so players will be able to get Euros there. Players will be able to use a prepaid debit card or Apple Pay in most establishments. Please keep in mind that most establishments do not accept American Express.

**COMMUNICATION** To avoid high international charges, families should contact their wireless provider before departure to adjust their calling plan. The staff will communicate with team members using WhatsApp, and the app should be downloaded at least one week before departure. We will send families the information they will need to connect with the group's WhatsApp Community. For security reasons, only players and parents/guardians will be permitted to join the WhatsApp Community.

## Packing checklist

- Equipment and sticks (skates can be sharpened at the rink)
- Home & away jerseys and socks
- “Khaki” pants/shorts of any color
- Shoes and socks
- Team apparel
- Off-ice warmup clothing
- Sneakers
- Casual clothing
- Toiletries & Medications
- Sunscreen
- Money
- AirTag or Tile (Optional)
- Charger with Type C travel adaptor



## Assignment of Responsibility Form

We, \_\_\_\_\_ (print P/G 1 name) and \_\_\_\_\_ (print P/G 2 name),  
 parent(s)/guardian(s) of \_\_\_\_\_ (print player name) hereby authorize the staff of the Atlantic  
 District Player Development Program/USA Hockey to act on our behalf with respect to the above-named minor  
 while in Italy and/or Austria from August 1-9, 2026.

*Please print clearly*

Player Full Name:			
Player Passport Number:			
Parent/Guardian 1 Full Name:			
Parent/Guardian 1 Signature:			Date:
Address 1:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Phone 1:	Phone 2:		
Parent/Guardian 2 Full Name:			
Parent/Guardian 2 Signature:			Date:
Address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Phone 1:	Phone 2:		
Responsible Adult Full Name:			
Responsible Adult Passport Number:			
Address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Phone 1:	Phone 2:		

State of \_\_\_\_\_  
 County of \_\_\_\_\_

On \_\_\_\_\_ (date), before me, \_\_\_\_\_ (notary), personally appeared  
 \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (signers) and proved to me on the basis of  
 satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) are subscribed to the within document and  
 acknowledged to me that they executed the same in their authorized capacity(ies).

WITNESS my hand and official seal:

My commission expires:



## Consent for Travel with a Minor Child Form

We, \_\_\_\_\_ (print P/G 1 name) and \_\_\_\_\_ (print P/G 2 name), are the lawful custodial or non-custodial parent(s)/ guardian(s) of \_\_\_\_\_ (print player name). The Atlantic District Player Development Program/USA Hockey has our consent to travel with the above-named minor to Italy and/or Austria from August 1-9, 2026 for the purposes of hockey training and development.

*Please print clearly*

Player Full Name:			
Player Passport Number:			
Parent/Guardian 1 Full Name:			
Parent/Guardian 1 Signature:			Date:
Address 1:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Phone 1:		Phone 2:	
Parent/Guardian 2 Full Name:			
Parent/Guardian 2 Signature:			Date:
Address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Phone 1:		Phone 2:	
Responsible Adult Full Name:			
Responsible Adult Passport Number:			
Address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Phone 1:		Phone 2:	

State of \_\_\_\_\_  
 County of \_\_\_\_\_

On \_\_\_\_\_ (date), before me, \_\_\_\_\_ (notary), personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (signers) and proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) are subscribed to the within document and acknowledged to me that they executed the same in their authorized capacity(ies).

WITNESS my hand and official seal:

My commission expires: