

# Nashoba Youth Hockey Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 681 Westford, MA 01886 www.nashobahockey.com

**Finance: Tuition Policy** 

2025-2026 Season

The Nashoba Youth Hockey Association, Inc. (NYHA) is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. As a non-profit, all members are responsible for complying with the Tuition Policy to ensure program costs are covered and to minimize the risk of non-payment or delinquent tuition fees.

The following Tuition Policy is in effect for the 2025-2026 season, which is scheduled to run from August 2025 through April 2026.

### **Tuition Overview**

The NYHA Board of Directors establishes tuition rates annually. Tuition fees ensure that the association can pay for the costs associated with operating the program, including but not limited to league fees, practice ice, skills clinics, goalie clinics, coaching education, league playdowns/playoffs and administrative costs. Please see program information on the NYHA website for details on what is included with tuition.

Tuition must be paid in full by <u>September 15, 2025</u>. Players will not be allowed to participate in NYHA activities (practices, skills, games, clinics, etc.) until any outstanding balances have been paid in full.

When player placement is accepted, tuition payments begin and hold a space for the player on that team. For that reason, we strongly encourage families to read and understand this policy before completing the registration process.

### **Registration Process**

All players must complete an online registration and submit a non-refundable registration fee to NYHA before the first placement evaluation session. Players will not be permitted to participate in their agelevel placement session unless both the registration and payment are completed.

Player placement is determined by the Director of Player Development, Age Level Directors, and Coaches. Players will be assigned to the NYHA team that best matches their age and ability. Please note that roster numbers are also considered when determining team placement. This helps us to minimize the costs associated with registering a team.

Notification of team placement will be delivered by email. To be rostered on a team, players must accept the team assignment "offer" and make a deposit.

Registration fees are applied to the tuition balance, and the tuition amount stated in the "offer" reflects a deduction for these fees. NYHA offers members the ability to make payments in monthly installments

until the due date. Deposits are non-refundable and are meant to hold a position for the player on the active roster. Non-payment of tuition fees may jeopardize the player's placement on the assigned team.

Please be aware that the formation of teams depends on having a sufficient number of registered players. If NYHA determines that there are not enough players to form a team, the Board of Directors may decide not to offer that team for the season. In such cases, NYHA will issue a full refund of any payments made.

### **Alternate Players**

The NYHA Board of Directors will review the use of alternate players annually. Placement of alternate players will be considered only after full-time players have been assigned and will be based on skill level, age, and team availability.

Players seeking alternate status must submit a written request to the NYHA Director of Player Development. Requests will be reviewed during the August meeting of the NYHA Board of Directors. Players can expect notification of the decision after this meeting occurs. The approval of alternate status requests is at the sole discretion of the Director of Player Development and the NYHA Board, and all decisions are final.

Approved alternate status players will be subject to the following conditions:

- Gameplay is not guaranteed, and alternates may not be eligible for playoff games.
- Full registration and payment must be completed before the player is added to the roster.
- No refunds will be issued at any time for alternate registrations.
- Alternates wishing to transition to full-time status must submit a request to the Director of Player Development. Full-time placement depends on roster size, and players will be billed the full-time tuition rate.

Participation in practices and games is at the discretion of the Head Coach. Alternates are not eligible for NYHA-hosted skills sessions or clinics.

# **Goalies**

The NYHA Board of Directors will review the offering of goalie-only positions annually. Players requesting a goalie-only position must submit a written request to the Director of Player Development.

If approved, players with Goalie Only status will be subject to the following conditions:

- Eligible to participate in NYHA hosted practices, skills sessions, and goalie clinics.
- Game participation will be determined at the Head Coach's discretion and is not guaranteed. Please be aware that full-time players will at times be given opportunities to play the goalie position.
- Permitted to "skate out" as non-goalie players on a limited basis (< 25%) and at the discretion of the Head Coach.
- Goalie tuition will be adjusted to sixty percent (60%) of the full-time player tuition.

# **Girls Hockey - Playing for Multiple teams**

Girl's Hockey players (U10–U19) interested in also joining the COED program should contact the NYHA Treasurer before registering. The COED tuition will be discounted to \$750 for those enrolled in both programs. Other programs are not eligible for the multiple-team discount.

### **Families with Multiple Players**

NYHA offers a family discount for those families who have three or more children registered. Families with three registered children will receive a 20% discount to the lowest tuition amount, and families with 4 children registered will receive a 50% discount to the lowest tuition. Families who register 5 or more players are may contact the NYHA Board to discuss further tuition discounts. Discounts do not apply to initiation programs or middle school tuitions.

### **Initiation Programs**

Initiation programs are offered throughout the season. Tuition is due at the time of registration and must be paid in full when submitting the completed online registration. Tuition fees will be announced before each session and may vary based on the costs of running the program.

### Declined, Late, Missed, or Returned Payments

NYHA incurs fees when payments are declined, late, missed, or returned. If you anticipate having difficulty making payments or know that you will not meet a payment deadline, please contact the NYHA Treasurer to discuss your options. NYHA offers a thirty (30) day grace period before late payment fees are applied.

If you have a question or concern about a charge made to your credit or debit card or bank account, members must first contact the NYHA Treasurer in writing to attempt to resolve the issue prior to initiating a dispute resolution with your financial institution.

Fees will be charged to the player's account as follows:

Туре	Fee
Returned checks	\$35
Declined, late, or missed	\$25
payment: credit card	
Declined, late, or missed	\$40
payment: ACH	
Dispute (ACH/Credit	5%
Card)	administration
	fee (based on
	base tuition
	rate) plus \$25
	fee

### **Rates and Payment Schedule**

Tuition rates will be published on the NYHA website while registration remains open. NYHA offers families the option of making payments in installments. The payment schedule will be as follows:

#### 2025-2026 Payment Schedule

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February	Registration fee
April 15	Deposit
May 15	Installment #1
June 15	Installment #2
July 15	Installment #3
August 15	Installment #4
September 15	Installment #5

NYHA receives notification of league fees and ice contracts during the summer before the season starts. For this reason, NYHA reserves the right to increase tuition fees up to 10% in response to higher than anticipated league fees and ice time rentals. Members will be notified of any necessary price increases by August  $31^{\rm st}$ .

# **Refund Policy**

The NYHA Board strongly encourages families to read and understand the refund policy before registering their player.

- Registration fees and deposits are non-refundable.
- Tuition refund requests will only be considered in cases of illness or injury that prohibit the player from participating in the sport of ice hockey for the remainder of the current hockey season. No refund will be granted for any reason other than the aforementioned.
- Requests must include a doctor's note validating the illness/injury and stating that the player will not be able to return to play for the duration of the season.
- Refund requests must be made in writing to the NYHA Treasurer.
- The NYHA Board of Directors will review the details, establish a date of withdrawal, and communicate a decision in writing.
- All decisions are final.
- Approved refunds subject to the availability of program funds.

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Fee	Refund amount
Placement Evaluation	Non-refundable
(\$150 registration fee)	
Deposit	Non-refundable
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Tuition:	Amount paid at time of
Illness or Injury related	request, net of registration fees
Before July 31st	and deposit
Tuition:	50% of tuition paid,
Illness or Injury related	net of registration fees and
After August 1st	deposit
Tuition:	Prorated based on amount of
Illness or Injury related	time participated, net of
After December 1st	registration fees and deposit
Tuition:	Non-refundable
Non-illness or Injury related	
Alternate placements	Non-refundable

# **Tuition Assistance**

The Nashoba Youth Hockey Association is committed to minimizing the financial obstacles associated with participating in our hockey programs. We have partnered with community members and organizations who help us to support this mission. Tuition assistance is available to NYHA applicants who are in need due to financial hardship.

Tuition Assistance is dependent upon availability of funds and is offered to members on an individual basis in two ways:

- <u>Modified Payment Plan</u>: Applicants and the NYHA Board will establish a written agreement that includes a modified payment schedule based on the current fee structure. The player will remain on the active roster if the agreed-upon payment plan is followed.
- <u>Tuition Relief</u>: Applicants and the NYHA Board will create a written agreement detailing a reduced tuition rate for the season. All applicants must contribute at least twenty percent (20%) of the tuition fee.

To make a request, complete and submit the Tuition Assistance Request form by March 31, 2025. The form can be found on our website at: <a href="https://shorturl.at/ugR9z">https://shorturl.at/ugR9z</a>

Tuition assistance requests remain confidential and are reviewed by the NYHA President and Treasurer. Supporting documentation may be requested. Applications will be assessed based on demonstrated financial hardship and available funds. All determinations will be communicated to applicants in writing.

#### **Tuition Assistance Terms**

- Assistance is granted on a per season basis. Applicants must apply each season.
- Applicants must remain members in good standing throughout the season to be eligible for continued assistance.
- The amount of assistance varies and is dependent on the availability of funds and specific needs of the applicant.
- Assistance is awarded at the discretion of the NYHA President and Treasurer.
- Tuition assistance is offered as a credit toward the player's tuition balance and will not be provided as cash.
- Tuition assistance will be applied to the next season tuition and may not be applied to current outstanding balances.
- Failure to pay balances according to the agreement will result in the player not being allowed to participate in NYHA activities (including but not limited to skills, practices, games, and clinics) until outstanding balances have been paid in full.
- All decisions are final.

By completing the Tuition Assistance Request Form, you acknowledge that you have read, understand, and agree to the NYHA Tuition Policy and that NYHA cannot guarantee your request for assistance will be awarded.

#### **Questions**

If you have any questions regarding this policy, please reach out to the NYHA Treasurer. NYHA members are also encouraged to attend the monthly Board of Directors meetings, where key organizational plans and updates are discussed.

Thank You, Board of Directors Nashoba Youth Hockey Association

**Treasurer** Amy Tesz amytesz@nashobahockey.com