

Newark Ice Hockey Association Tryouts 2026-2027 Season

Overview

High School will play in the OSHL and we will field one JV and one Varsity team. We will evaluate the need for a lower level high school team if the numbers make sense. Travel will play in either the BTHL or MCHL and we will field **AA, A/A2, and B (House) travel teams at 10U, 12U, and 14U as long as the numbers support this.** All participants will be contacted within 48-72 hours of the conclusion of tryouts with a decision. Travel teams will be notified starting with AA. High School will be notified starting with Varsity. High School tryouts will consist of two on ice days. Youth travel tryouts will consist of two on ice days. **IF YOU RECEIVE AN OFFER, YOU MUST VERBALLY COMMIT (RESPOND IN WRITING) TO SECURE YOUR ROSTER SPOT WITHIN 24 HOURS. YOU MUST THEN PAY A NONREFUNDABLE \$250 WITHIN 48 HOURS. B TEAMS WILL NOT BE REQUIRED TO PAY THE \$250.**

YOU MAY ONLY TRY OUT FOR THE POSITION YOU WANT TO PLAY. NO EXCEPTIONS. EXAMPLE: GOALIE OR SKATER. IF YOU MAKE THE TEAM AS A GOALIE AND WISH TO TRY SKATER AFTER THE SEASON BEGINS, THAT WILL BE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE HEAD COACH AND HOCKEY DIRECTOR.

Process

1. NIHA conducts open and competitive tryouts for travel teams. High school will only be permitted to try out if you are in good standing with all previous organizations. Please verify you are eligible as we will not refund fees.. **Players are not guaranteed a position based on their previous year's team and/or coach.**
2. Tryouts are overseen by the President, Vice President and Hockey Director with help from NIHA coaches, they will oversee the on-ice portion, selection of evaluators and format of the tryouts.
3. Players and parents shall abide by the USA Hockey Code of Conduct and Parent Code of Conduct
4. There is a nonrefundable fee charged for tryouts (fee is subject to change by the NIHA Board of Directors).
5. **Players must provide a valid 26-27' USA Hockey registration number by tryouts.**
6. **No players will be permitted to try out unless all financial obligations to NIHA have been satisfied from the previous season.**
7. Players must check in and receive a numbered jersey or pinnie before each tryout session and be at the rink at least 30 minutes prior to the start of tryouts. **RETURN AFTER CONCLUSION OF TRYOUTS.**
8. Tryouts will consist of up to two sessions of on ice drills and/or scrimmages. These on ice-drills and/or scrimmages will be the basis for evaluating each player's ability for the level of

competition.

9. Every effort will be made to shield the identity of the players from the evaluators so that an objective tryout process is maintained. Each player will be assigned a jersey or a pinnie with a number. The jersey or pinnie must be worn by the player during the entire tryout process (at each session). No player may trade numbers with another player. Players should not wear a jersey with their name on it.

10. Players unable to tryout due to medical reasons must notify the Hockey Director in writing prior to the beginning of tryouts. The Tryout Committee will review each situation independently and decide on a placement for the player. Consideration will be given to the following: 1) Ability of player in the past; 2) Consultation with past coaches; and 3) Severity of disability and probability of return for the upcoming season.

11. The Hockey Director will try to accommodate a legitimate scheduling conflict. Notice of conflict must be given at least 48 hours prior to the first scheduled tryout session.

Evaluators

Evaluators are responsible for assessing skill levels of each player and will facilitate each session by ensuring the required drills are completed as determined by the NIHA Hockey Director. Evaluators may include volunteer coaches, NIHA members, Board members, and other objective evaluators whose assistance has been requested during the tryout process.

Parents/Guardians

Parents or guardians will not be allowed in the arena during the tryout process unless they are approved coaching staff. Parents will only be permitted in the lobby during on ice activities. Parents and guardians will not be allowed to attempt to influence the outcome of the tryouts. Violation of this requirement by any non-coach parent could jeopardize their player's participation in NIHA travel or high school Hockey. **IF YOU RECEIVE AN OFFER, YOU MUST VERBALLY SECURE YOUR ROSTER SPOT WITHIN 24 HOURS. YOU MUST THEN PAY A NONREFUNDABLE \$250 WITHIN 48 HOURS. B TEAMS WILL NOT BE REQUIRED TO PAY THE \$250.**

Best of luck to all our athletes!

Jeff Laird, NIHA Hockey Director