



STATE COLLEGE YOUTH HOCKEY 2026 SPRING TEAMS PROGRAM & FEES

State College Youth Ice Hockey Association is accepting registrations to determine interest in our “Saber Cats” spring hockey program for 2026. Saber Cat teams are intended to provide a supplemental opportunity for players interested in continuing their development during the Spring season. Players who register are committing to playing if a team is available and will be expected to attend practices (minimum 80%) in order to be eligible for tournaments (unless otherwise agreed upon by the coach due to conflicts provided prior to scheduling). Tournaments are an additional cost with a goal of attending two tournaments for all interested players. Tournament rosters are dictated based on skill alignment, schedule, interest, and coach discretion.

The Spring Saber Cats 2026 program will be used to provide exposure to players moving up an age group in the 2026-2027 season to the next level of competition. As such, teams will be based on 2026-27 birth year age group alignment (i.e. current 2nd year players in any age group will move up to the next age group and 2017 birth year 8U players will be eligible to participate at the 10U age group). Based on committed registration numbers, some players may be asked to remain in their current age group if that is the only means possible for them to be on a team.

The Spring season will start following the completion of the current SCYIHA season with practices starting in mid-April and concluding the first week of June (7-8 weeks of practice). All teams are open to male and female players.

With an unknown level of interest at this time, if registration numbers are sufficient to form multiple teams at any given age group, the team assignments will be made based on coaching evaluation at practices. Teams may be formed based on skill division or might be mixed skill. Teams for spring are branded as State College Saber Cats and have uniforms of bright green and black to differentiate it from Icers and Wild programming given their flexible nature.

We will strive to staff each team with a non-parent head coaches and skill coaches, but anticipate that parent coaches will help to fill out staff for these teams. Interested parties should state their interest on the registration form. Head coaches are responsible for selecting their assistant coaches and identifying a team manager.

An up-front \$200 commitment fee is required. The commitment fee is non-refundable if a team with sufficient player interest is formed and the player is offered a roster spot. Should a team not be formed due to lack of interest, commitment fees will be refunded. Commitment fee will be put toward the player fee.

Fees will be relative to player interest and ice availability. As a result these fees and ice touches are estimated until we have the full player numbers per age group:

- 8U (1x practice) - \$295
- 10U (2x practice) - \$395
- 12U (3x practice) - \$495
- 14U (3x practice) - \$595
- 16U (3x practice) - \$595



Final player fees will be determined based on the number of committed players and final ice utilization. The estimated fee includes two practice style jerseys that will be worn for games and a pair of single-color socks. Estimated player fees include compensation for non-parent head coaches.

Other Important Details

- Teams will compete using an independently determined schedule at regional tournaments as agreed upon by the players. Two tournaments are intended and are an additional cost based on numbers and skill appropriateness as determined by the head coach.
- The minimum viable roster size is 13. Rosters of approximately 13 to 16 players are anticipated, plus two goalies per team.
- Rosters that fall below the minimum viable limit may result in players being offered the opportunity to practice with the closest age appropriate team. They would not be eligible for events but would obtain the same high quality development reps as other kids at the similar age group. This was done previously and was very successful in pushing the pace while providing appropriate development reps for the players in question.
- Families that already have purchased Saber Cats jerseys who would like to reuse them will be offered that option during registration. The cost of a set of jerseys and socks is \$88 and would be reduced from fees in the final offer families.
- Registration closes Feb 17th to allow enough time for ordering jerseys and budgeting ice
- Goalies (10U+) receive a 50% rate on participation, though non-refundable deposit is the same