



Aberdeen Hockey Association

Parent-Player Meetings – October 14, 2025

2025-2026 Season

Squirt/10U Division

Meeting Agenda

- USAH/SDAHA/AHA Overview
- Introductions
- AHA Team Values, Team Philosophy, Coaching Philosophy
- Locker Room, Equipment
- Communication/Contact Info
- Schedule
- Policies/Paperwork



USAH/SDAHA/AHA

- USA Hockey Preeminence:
 - Sportsmanship, Respect for the Individual, Integrity, Pursuit of Excellence, Enjoyment, Loyalty, Teamwork
- SDAHA:
 - Leagues, Schedule, Playing Rules, Conduct
- AHA:
 - Administer program, enforce policies and procedures for AHA, SDAHA, and USAH
- AHA Structure
 - Board of Directors/HDC



Coaching Staff & AHA Introductions

- Head Coach: Matt Campbell
- Assistant Coaches: Mike Kolb, Kyle Malsom, Derrick Brick, Shelby Edwards, Ryan Holien, Nate Williams, Jeff Deuel, and support from the Aberdeen Wings.
- Coordinator: Wendy Stein, Kayla Campbell
- Mike Schmidt: Director of Hockey Operations
- Duke Witte: AHA President
- Derek Hadrick: AHA Vice President
- Katie Linke: AHA Treasurer
- Many others...

Please be respectful to ALL volunteers.



Team and Parent Introductions



AHA Values

- **POSITIVE ATTITUDE**
 - Support your teammates....When a teammate is down, pick them up
- **PRIDE**
 - Pride is about being part of something bigger than yourself
 - You are representing AHA/Cougars during games and practices, and in the community
- **EFFORT**
 - 100% effort is expected at all times. Effort can't be coached. Each player is expected to control their effort
- **DISCIPLINE**
 - Having discipline is about making the right choices.
 - Be on time for practice and games.
- **TEAMWORK**
 - Be RESPECTFUL to coaches, teammates, officials, and opponents
 - We WIN together and lose together as a TEAM



Team Philosophy

- Players Control: Effort and Attitude
 - 100% effort in practice and games.
 - Players will sit out if there are challenges with attitude, listening, disruptions, or disrespect.
- Games/Practices – Be on Time (or communicate)
- 2nd year players to be the example.



Coaching Philosophy

My coaching philosophy centers on **developing a love for the game** while teaching players the habits, skills, and teamwork that build lifelong athletes and teammates. Winning is not the exclusive goal, but it will become the **byproduct of doing the right things consistently**.

I am focused on creating an environment where every player:

1. Improves at practice
2. Learns responsibility and teamwork
3. Builds confidence
4. Respects the game, teammates, coaches, opponents, and officials

Implementing Philosophy

Building the Foundation: Fundamentals First:

Skating skills...Skating skills...Skating skills... passing, shooting, puck control, and reading/reacting.

Squirt Hockey is Developmental Hockey:

Every player will learn every Position to build a complete understanding of the game. We will also introduce the Four Roles of Hockey.

Effort and Attitude Define Success:

Players control their effort and attitude. Accountability and positivity leads to progress.

Four Roles of Hockey

- 1. Offense on the Puck** – Create scoring opportunities
- 2. Offense away from the Puck** – Support and create space
- 3. Defense on the Puck** – Pressure and contain
- 4. Defense away from the Puck** – Protect the middle and anticipate.

Locker Room Rules

- **Access and Environment**

- Team Only: Only players and coaches are allowed in the locker room **15 minute before and after games.**
- Snacks and Nutrition: Avoid energy drinks and unhealthy snacks between games.
- Music: Must be approved by coach with age-appropriate content.
- Skates: Tying skates is a skill. Practice at the rink and at home.

- **AHA/USA Hockey Locker Room Policy**

- Devices: No phones or recording devices may be used in the locker room.
- SafeSport: Zero tolerance for misconduct, bullying, hazing, or harassment



Squirt Hockey 101

NEW Rules, NEW Format, NEW Experience

- New Positions
- Offsides
- Icing
- Penalties
- Full Ice
- Goalies / Regulation Nets

*****Reality***** This makes the game harder for the players. Players will make mistakes. Expect players to panic and not pass or miss passes, go offsides, be in the wrong positions, and goalies will let in a lot of goals. Be patient and respectful with the players and the parents around you. It is new for many.

*****Be Positive***** No one benefits from negativity in the stands. Comments about players not passing or making mistakes does not help. I promise both that every player is learning and trying their best and the parent next to you has no interest to hear any negative remarks about the players.



EQUIPMENT

- Socks – Practice socks available @ Pure Hockey.
- Game Socks will be purchased from AHA
- Jerseys- New Jerseys will be rented from AHA
- White Helmets, Protective Gear, Black Hockey Pants
- Neck Laceration Protection. No Exceptions.
- Gameday Warm-Ups – Dress in sweatpants for games.. Be ready to go for dryland and warm up.



Communications & Contact Information

- Player communications and announcements will be sent out via Crossbar Chat. Use the RSVP Function on Crossbar.
- **24 HR Rule is MANDATORY** – Give it 24 hours before contacting a coach or coordinator about a practice or a game.
- **Head Coach: Matt Campbell**
 - Phone : 605-216-2019
- **Coordinator: Wendy Stein**
 - Phone: 605.216.2266
- **Coordinator: Kayla Campbell**
 - Phone: 605-380-8182



Player and Parent Concerns

Problems, Concerns, and Miscommunications WILL occur

- If you have a concern or your child has a concern, I encourage you to ask your child to see if they can approach it. We are all trying to develop our children beyond the ice rink.
- If your child is unhappy, have them come talk to head coach.
- I am focused on developing good kids. Let's see if we can help them develop their communication skills.
- **I encourage the parents and other coaches to sit in on these conversations to support the player's concern.**



SCHEDULE

- **League Schedule:** Released on or about 11/1/24
 - 8A, 10B, 9C = 27 Squirt Teams
 - Will Play 16 League Games
 - 2- Jamborees @ 4 games each
 - 4- Game Days @ 2 games each
- **Practice Schedule**
 - Monday: 6:45-7:45 Expo
 - Tuesday: 5:30-6:30 Expo
 - Thursday: 5:45 – 6:25 – Dryland *Optional
6:45-7:45 Expo
- Infinite Edge & Power Skating: 10/31-11/2
- Rink Cleaning: Thursday – Expo behind and in front of bleachers and bathroom area



TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Squirt A

- Brown County Battle (Aberdeen)
 - December 19-21
- Fargo International (Fargo)
 - January 29-February 1

Squirt B

- Brown County Battle (Aberdeen)
 - December 19-21
- Tyler Wilcox Memorial (Pierre)
 - January 16 - 18



POLICIES/PAPERWORK

- Code of Conduct
- Volunteer Policy
- Fundraising Policy/Dates
- Jersey Deposits/Rental
- Policy on Use of Sticks, Balls, & Pucks
- Academic Release
- 24 Hour Waiting Rule
- Locker Room Policy
- Zero Tolerance Policy



ZERO TOLERANCE (USAH/SDAHA/AHA)

The game officials will stop a game when the parents/spectators displaying inappropriate and disruptive behavior interfere with other spectators or the game. This inappropriate and disruptive behavior shall include:

1. Use of obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner towards anyone at any time.
2. Taunting of players, coaches, officials, or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threats of physical violence or actual physical violence
3. Throwing of any object in the spectator's viewing area, player's bench, penalty box, ice surfaces, or any other area inside the rink directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard. Spitting at players, officials (off ice, minor officials, or on-ice officials), or fans/spectators is also prohibited.
4. Touching, pounding, or hanging on the glass boards of the rink

Spectators not abiding by these rules may be removed from the facility with or without warning.

We want to ensure a great fan experience for all spectators and urge you to cheer loud and proud for your team in an appropriate manner. Please help us in making our ice rink the best place in South Dakota to watch hockey by displaying respectful behaviors!

“Administrators are responsible for enforcing the rules and policies established and approved by USA Hockey, their Affiliate, and their Association or Club. This includes taking disciplinary action, as deemed appropriate, towards any parent/spectator removed from a game as a result of a violation of the Zero Tolerance Policy.” **USA Hockey**



Questions?

