

Parents Guide to

Putnam Panthers



Some information for the Season

Dear Putnam Parent,

Another season is upon us and it is with great pleasure and privilege that we get to start the 49th season with PHA. We look forward to meeting new families soon and building our teams quickly. We will do our best to communicate any changes throughout the summer and into the regular season status changes, scheduling and program news and updates. Please understand that some of the information we receive will change based on certain circumstances but every effort will be made to mitigate disruption and lack of information during this transition.

The season schedule will be updated soon after we get our training times and game slots. Included in this packet is our **"parents make the difference"** information, our grievance policy, and other material related to the teams this season. We will go into this season with the hope that we will work together to mold the best young players that we can. We anticipate and trust that you as a parent will help us in achieving that goal.

We will have access to lots of great opportunities to have a complete hockey experience this season. From valued equipment purchases and activities centered and focused around our players, we hope to help provide a great year of hockey development and team building. We want to do everything in our power to prepare and motivate our players to achieve their goals.

Policy is included here but it is good practice to always follow PHA and USA Hockey Code of Conducts. Questions regarding ice time, positions, lines, etc will be reviewed. This is not an opportunity to change policy, it is for information only. Before the start of the season, we will ask you to turn in your "parent code of conduct" signed and dated.

Thank you for choosing to place your player with our team and the deep and rich history of the PHA program. We look forward to a great year of hockey and watching this group of young players progress through our program.

Sincerely,

PHA Board & Coaching Staff

"PHA has some of the best parents and players that we have worked with over the years. Everyone showed great manners. A great showing of PHA organizations character. Definitely a place I feel comfortable referring families to."

- Nick Niedert, Wesco goalie center manager. Nick played 16 minor league seasons of professional hockey including FPHL, ECHOL and CHL..

PARENTS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

IN THE STANDS

Parents can take the fun out of hockey by continually yelling or screaming from the stands. Parents should enjoy the game and applaud good plays. The stands are not a place from which parents should try to personally coach their kids. Kids often mirror the actions of their parents; if they see mom or dad losing their cool in the stands, they'll probably do the same on the ice.

CAR AND HOME

Some parents not only spoil the fun for their kids at the ice rink but also in the car, believing this is the perfect place for instruction. Parents should try to keep things in perspective. There's more to life than hockey, and the car and home are not places to coach. Parents are responsible for supporting and respecting the coach's decisions and abilities. It is unfair to put children in a position of having to decide who to listen to – their parents or their coach.

SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

There are many benefits that are derived from playing youth hockey. Players learn good sportsmanship and self-discipline. They learn to work together, how to sacrifice for the good of the team, how to enjoy winning and how to handle defeat. In the process, they also learn important lessons about physical fitness and personal health. The degree to which your child benefits from this hockey experience is as much your responsibility as it theirs. In order for your child to get the most out of our program, it is important for you to show support and offer encouragement while maintaining a genuine interest in the team.

ALWAYS BE POSITIVE

Parents serve as role models for their children, who often look to adults for advice, direction, and approval. Never lose sight of the fact that you are a role model and strive to be positive. parent, one of the most important things you can do is show good sportsmanship at all times to coaches, referees, opponents, and teammates. Remember that your children are PLAYING hockey. It is important to allow them to establish their own goals and play the game for themselves. Be careful not to impose your own standards or objectives.

LET THE COACH COACH

Avoid placing an exaggerated emphasis on winning. The most important aspect of your child's hockey experience is for them to have fun while developing physical and emotional skills that will serve them in life. A healthy, risk-free environment that emphasizes the importance of fair play, sportsmanship, teamwork and, most importantly, fun will be invaluable for your child as he continues to develop a positive self-image.

POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT

The best way to help players achieve goals and reduce their natural fear of failure is through positive reinforcement. No one feels good after making mistakes. If your child does make a mistake – and they will (remember, they're just kids) – keep in mind that mistakes are an important part of the overall learning process. Strive to be supportive and point out the things they do well. Make sure your child knows that, regardless of the outcome of a game, he is a winner.

"The Putnam Panthers gave me a home and true hockey family experience no matter the point in my youth hockey career, and still to this day. Growing up I've played on a myriad of teams, rising to high levels for organizations like the Hartford Jr. Wolfpack and a collection of others. Despite moving around the map, Putnam established a sense of home, a place I was always comfortable coming back to. Playing and coaching for the organization has given me the opportunity to give back to the organization that gave me so much. That's the Putnam Panther way, a big hockey family, supporting one another step by step.

- Colin Coe PHA Alumni & PHA Goalie Coach

"Playing for Putnam was family. The hockey was good, the brother/sisterhood was even better."

- Steven Mount CHS Varsity Captain & PHA Alumni

"Playing for PHA was like playing with my family. The friends I made there are friends that i will have forever"

- Gavin Golisano CHS Varsity Captain & PHA Alumni

Grievance policy

We have implemented a “grievance policy” for issuing complaints and disagreements on ice time, player policy and discipline. Unfortunately, this policy needed to be implemented. The following are the criteria you must use to issue any dissatisfaction with your child's playing time, role on the team, position, etc...

1. The player in question must meet with a member of the coaching staff.
2. If there is no satisfactory result from that meeting, a player may meet with the entire coaching staff together in a predetermined meeting.
3. If the player still has an issue that is unresolved he may request a meeting with the coaching staff and a parent by requesting that meeting in email form to the coach.
4. If no satisfactory result has been made, the player, coach and a parent can request to meet with the organizational leadership to look into the grievance.

At no time will a parent be permitted to call, email or confront a member of the coaching staff about a player. The player must institute all correspondence between player and coach. Thank you for adhering to this policy.

This policy by no means supersedes the involvement of a parent when it involves personnel matters, mental and physical health concerns or academic matters. Please understand that your player is this coaching staff's primary concern and anything you can do to help us better understand and interact with your child is much appreciated.

Additionally, please remember to follow our 24 hour rule. PHA has a 24 hour rule for parents and players. Unless it is related to a disciplinary or child welfare matter, parents/players are asked to wait 24 hours before approaching coaches with any issues pertaining to coaching decisions/actions.

What PHA includes

We will discuss in-depth benefits offered this season for the team at our 1st introduction.

The Program

- 50 - 60 practices / training sessions consisting of on ice and off ice programming
- *Team uniform / socks for games and practice jersey
- Connecticut and Hudson Valley based League and independent games
- 3/4 U.S.A. Hockey sanctioned tournaments^
- Professional coaching staff
- Checking clinics for 14U team
- Goalie specific training at most weekly practices
- Pre-season preparation skates
- Power Edge Pro Reactive Countering Training utilized by NHL, USHL and NCAA teams
- Consistent pre-game scouting and game preparation
- Complex coaching and teaching techniques and education for the modern game
- Video review and breakdown of practices and games^
- Zoom practice once a week to team discussions and video review^
- **Power Player assessment program.** Evaluations and daily metrics to track development
- **Floorball4Hockey** activities and training - USA Hockey stick needs to be purchased^
- Station based and SAG program training and development structure.

* indicates additional fee

^ varies based on team

Let's make the best team experience and player development path that we can . . . together

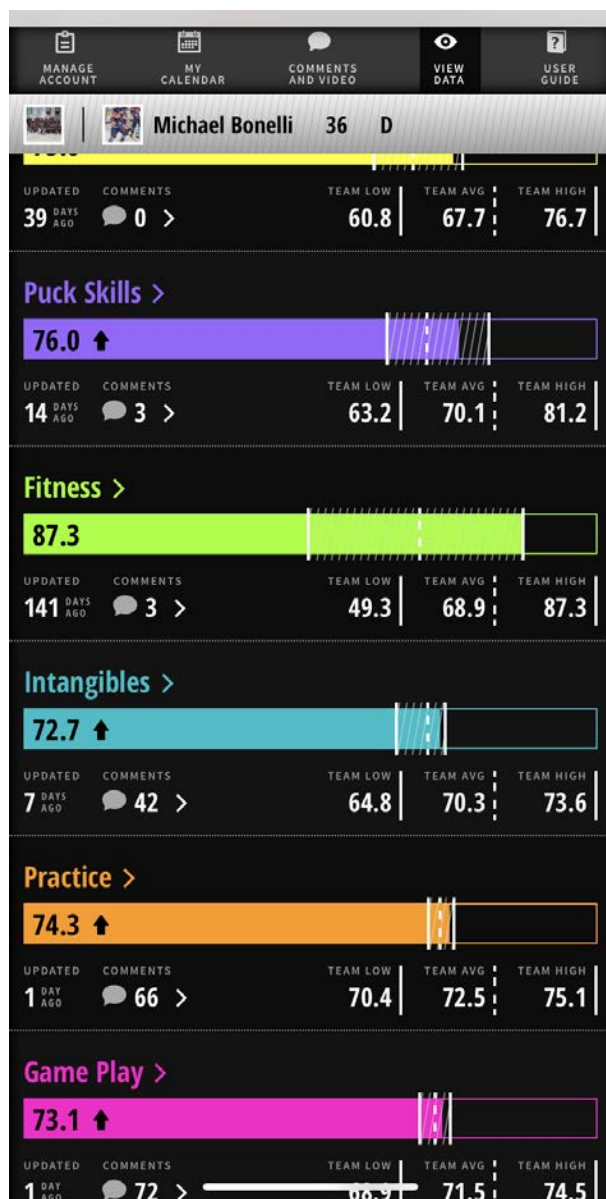
We will be looking to build our team concept and program build right from the start of team selection.

Please let us know what YOU can offer our team to help us develop relationships, respect and team first attitudes as we build the foundation of player development and individual success. How can you help?

- Host a team function; pool party, movie night, attend a baseball game, etc..
 - Host a parent social; the success of a team at the youth level can be directly linked to the respect and relationships that the parents of players have for each other. Hosting a parent social will help in accomplishing this goal.
 - Tournament and Road Game Coordinator; someone to help with team activities, local site trips on overnights, and team meals.
-

Player Assessment and Communication

This season we will be using a program called **The Power Player** for our bantam team. Power Player is an assessment software tool that we use to help provide feedback, guidance, share lesson plans, video instruction, development ideas and overall player grading. The Power Player program gives us the ability to give parents and players the same level of insight into our process and expectations as they will get in the academic process. Daily and weekly interactions will take place using this program with the hopes that players (and their parents) are always connected to the coaches decisions and how they are gauging the players development within our system.



MAR 9TH / 08:17 AM
COACH BONELLI GAME PLAY

Puck Support/Situational Awareness

Good job containing the play and putting pressure on pucks. A much better job of jumping into the play and supporting the offense. I would like to see more "finish" but overall good awareness.

👍 ?

EDIT

MAR 5TH / 05:19 PM
COACH BONELLI TECHNIQUE SENT TO: 13 USERS

Stick Battles

Video example of why we are always emphasizing STICK PRESSURE and STICK BATTLES in practice.

Check out these 3 goals from CHI vs. CGY over the weekend. All come from turnovers from stick pressure or won stick battles. Great job keeping sticks down and being tough to play against!

👍 ?

EDIT

Communication

We take great pride in my open and accessible communication with parents and players. All PHA team members will be included on our weekly updates and Power Player feedback (bantam team). Game additions, practice changes, and PHA news will all be communicated on a regular basis.

Follow PHA

Twitter: @putnamhockey Instagram: @putnampanthershockey

Facebook: Putnam Panthers Ice Hockey & Putnam Hockey Association