



2012–2013
SEASON

Welcome to Bears hockey!

To follow is general information and the necessary forms to register one or more kids (in the same family) in youth hockey! For more information, please visit our website: www.palousehockey.com.

Season

Compared to the duration of other sports seasons, hockey offers kids the opportunity to increase knowledge of and skills in the game over a longer period of time. Our regular season runs from the beginning of November 2012 through the beginning of March 2013.

Association / Teams / Divisions

The Palouse Youth Hockey Association (PYHA) is affiliated and in good standing with the national USA Hockey organization as well as the Idaho Amateur Hockey Association. All PYHA teams are known as the Bears. There are several divisions based on player age and birth year:

Division	Born During (Year)
Midget (18 or Under)	1994, 1995, 1996, 1997
Bantam (14 or Under)	1998, 1999
PeeWee (12 or Under)	2000, 2001
Squirt (10 or Under)	2002, 2003
Mite (8 or Under)	2004 and after

Home Rink

On-ice practices and home games will be held at the Rotary Veteran's Memorial Pavilion—more commonly known as the "Palouse Ice Rink"—located on the Latah County Fairgrounds in Moscow. Home hockey games are sanctioned by and follow USA Hockey rules, which are enforced by USA Hockey trained and certified on-ice officials (referees).

Experience / Coaches / Training

No previous skating or hockey experience is required, and beginning players are encouraged to join!

All PYHA coaches are trained and certified via USA Hockey at or above the appropriate level required for each division.

Practice ice time for each team is included in the registration fee and these practices will be held at the Palouse Ice Rink. Please note that "checking" is not allowed in the Squirt or Mite divisions. Players in the older (Midget, Bantam, PeeWee) divisions will be shown proper checking techniques, as well as ways to avoid being checked. Depending on the division, your child(ren)'s coach(es) might decide to also include off ice practices as part of team/player conditioning. (Optional "Learn to Skate" and "Learn to Play Hockey" classes will be offered periodically at the Palouse Ice Rink to provide additional opportunities for new skaters/players.)

Uniform / Equipment / Protective Gear

Jerseys

Hockey jerseys are issued to each team at the beginning of the season and must be returned at the end of the season. (Team coaches/managers may decide to keep the jerseys and distribute them only for games.)

Socks

Matching hockey socks are provided to new players free of charge. If a returning player needs a new pair of hockey socks, s/he may purchase them on her/his own (Buffalo Sabres – red with black, gray & white stripes) or check with the PYHA Treasurer (Holly Hunsinger) to see if a group order will be placed.

Equipment / Protective Gear

Each player is required to have the following equipment and protective gear developed for ice hockey:

Certified helmet with face mask	Pants
Colored (not clear) mouth guard*	Cup/pelvic protector and undershorts (jock/jill)
Shoulder pads	Shin pads
Elbow pads	Skates
Gloves	Stick
Neck guard (provided by PYHA, free of charge, to new players!)	

* Wayne Peterson, DDS, has generously offered to provide custom mouth guards, free of charge, to all PYHA players! Please call his office at (208) 883-7645 to schedule an appointment for proper fitting.

Note that equipment/gear may be new or used. Examples of places to find new/used items are:

- PYHA (a limited number of rental equipment/gear is available)
- Sporting goods stores—local stores include: Paradise Creek Bicycles, Big 5, Sports Authority
- Online—examples of sites include: Ebay, HockeyGiant.com, HockeyMonkey.com

Membership/Registration

USA Hockey

Before a player can be registered with PYHA, s/he must be registered (separately) as a member of the national USA Hockey organization. This membership includes supplemental insurance as well as a subscription to a monthly hockey magazine and many other benefits that may be reviewed online. For players born in 2005 or before, there is a registration fee of \$40 (USA Hockey waives this fee for players born in 2006 and after), plus another small charge depending on residency (Idaho or Washington). To register for USA Hockey:

1. Go to www.usahockey.com click on **PLAYERS**, select **Register Online**. Click on **REGISTER NOW**.
2. You must be 18 years of age to process a registration. Check the box that acknowledges you are 18 or older.
3. Choose registration type: **Ice Player or Coach**
4. Select the correct season: **2012-2013**
5. Provide the appropriate information as prompted.
6. Process payment using an acceptable credit or debit card.
7. **Print the confirmation page and turn it in with the PYHA registration forms.**

PYHA

Programs fees for the entire four-months of the season are **\$325 for the Mite division** and **\$375 for all other divisions**. (First-time PYHA players are given a special rate of \$300.) A multi-player discount* may be offered to families registering two or more children. Payment may be made in full or in up to three installments via post-dated checks (the first must be current, and the final/balance must be dated no later than February 15, 2013). Check(s) should be made payable to "Palouse Youth Hockey Association" or "PYHA." Please also note:

- ◆ No player will be allowed on the ice until all registration forms have been submitted and fees paid (or other arrangements made). We will do our best to give every child who wishes to participate the opportunity to do so.
- ◆ League Service is also required in the form of 15 hours per family; a buy-out option is available for those who are unable to meet this requirement. Please refer to League Service info.
- ◆ Individual teams may elect to play in one or more tournaments during the course of the season. Participation in any tournament is optional, and tournament entry fees are not included in the regular registration fees listed.

Need more information?

You are welcome to contact registrar, Marina Hawn, by phone (509) 339-3993 or email PYHA.info@gmail.com; PYHA president, Mark McGuire (208) 882-1499; and/or group representative, Susan Hunt (208) 883-8853.

We're looking forward to helping your kid(s) play hockey!



League Service

League Service requirement is 15 hours per family. The PYHA Board will assist in coordinating this effort.

Why the need for service hours?

Most organizations either have a required service program in place (which might also allow a financial contribution to be paid in lieu of providing help), and/or that program might be funded by way of a higher registration cost.

The Palouse Youth Hockey Association Board is comprised of a group of volunteers who have been taking the lead each year to organize teams, coaches, uniforms, and fundraising, and to coordinate with the ice rink, other youth hockey teams & associations, referees, and community events.

More hands lighten the load.

While there are many people who like to and regularly do volunteer to help with these organizational responsibilities, many more are needed to ensure that everything that needs to be done flows smoothly. It is wonderful to see families in the Palouse so involved with one or more children in various sports, music, and/or other extracurricular activities. With so much going on, however, some families might not be aware of how much only a couple of hours of their time here & there can do for PYHA as a whole. Setting a requirement for a minimum number of service hours allows for the work to be spread out among the larger number of player family members, rather than a smaller group of the same individuals.

In lieu of providing service hours, PYHA allows for a financial contribution from those who might have more financial resources than time. These contributions also help and are very much appreciated by the association. If it is your decision to select this buy-out option, please know that you are still welcome to participate in any area of help, when/if you are able to do so. Likewise, there are a number of volunteers who would have service hours in triple digits, if they were to track them. We appreciate any assistance as it's all for the kids!

It is easy to earn League Service hours! Attend PYHA meetings; participate in parades or help at a PYHA booth or table at community events; help with tournaments or other annual activities (Fair clean-up, registration, hockey swap, end-of-season banquet); serve as a team representative (fundraising, time-tracking); or assist as an off-ice official (during home games). Adults and even players can also earn hours by lending a hand at the Palouse Ice Rink (please coordinate with PIR staff). PYHA currently has need of individuals to help in specific areas, too!

How this works:

The requirement of 15 hours is per family, not per player. At the beginning of the season, we request a post-dated check in the amount of \$100 as a deposit. At the end of the season or upon fulfillment of the 15-hour commitment, your check will be returned to you. If the time commitment is not complete at the end of the season, your check will be deposited and cashed. Each family is asked to track the hours they serve using a copy of the form on the back of this sheet. Your team manager (if you have more than one child playing, then the team manager of your oldest player) will need to review your entries and sign off at least monthly. *(You could volunteer to be the tracker for your team!)*

If you elect to provide the 15 hours of League Service:

Please make your deposit check in the amount of **\$100.00**, payable to "PYHA" and post-date it for **April 1, 2013**. Your check will be returned/destroyed at the end of the season or after completion of the 15-hour requirement.

If you elect to use the buyout option:

Please make your check in the amount of **\$100.00**, payable to "PYHA" and use the current (today's) date; your check will be cashed.

Thank you for doing your part to help as a member of our association!

PYHA Family League Service Hours

Name(s) of PLAYER(S): _____

Date: _____ Type of Service: _____ Time In: _____ Time Out: _____ # of Hours: _____
First name(s) of individual(s) helping: _____ # of People: _____ Total Hours This Date: _____

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