

2018-19 NEW LEAGUE PARTICIPATION  
LITTLE CAESARS AMATEUR HOCKEY LEAGUE

The Cincinnati Swords is pleased to announce that we will be supporting select teams' participation in the Little Caesars Amateur Hockey League for the 2018-19 season. The Little Caesars Amateur Hockey League is the nation's largest amateur youth ice hockey league, involving teams from all over America's Midwest -- Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois including, on occasion, Nashville, Tennessee -- with more than 600 Tier 2 Travel and Tier 3 House Teams and over 10,000 players. Little Caesars does have boundaries and our teams will work within their stated boundaries. This means our teams "home" ice will be located in southern Michigan/northern Ohio rather than Cincinnati. Our participating teams will schedule non-league games and practices with the goal of being at home at least one weekend a month.

Each year we strive to have our teams playing at the highest level possible. In 2017-18, we had two teams (U18 and 2005 Ganz team) participate in Little Caesars and one team (2007 Backen team) play an independent schedule. We have had discussions with all three coaches about their experiences and other 2017-18 coaches to determine the best leagues for our teams moving forward.

Supplemental Program Details:

We anticipate that our Little Caesars teams will practice twice a week and participate in our newly formed clinics (details to come). The Swords organization remains in competition for limited available ice time and may not be able to form a team in every situation. However, we continue to make the best use of the limited ice available. In addition to Little Caesars play, teams will have additional playing opportunities including tournaments and/or non-league scrimmages. While there will be additional expenses in terms of travel costs, we do not anticipate participating in the Little Caesars itself will increase a skater's team fee. However, we recognize that participating in Little Caesars requires additional dedicated hockey time for families and more travel. When families are registering their skaters for the upcoming tryouts, you will have the option to be considered for participation on a team playing Little Caesars or you may also choose not to participate as we recognize that each family's personal situations are varied. Coaches will indicate in their personal prospectus if they plan to play in Little Caesars keeping in mind that a final decision cannot be determined until the coach reviews the talent level and growth potential of the players. Please be sure to review all the coaching prospectuses to make the best choice possible for your family.

Jersey/Equipment Order:

Due to our time constraints with ordering and receiving custom jerseys, we ask all families to have their player(s) sized for jerseys, socks and team warm ups during tryouts. Sizers are available at all tryout sessions. You will not need to place an order until after you have been notified about your player's team placement. All purchases will be made through an online store on the website. Our order deadline this year will be Friday, May 25.

All team members will be required to have the following items as part of their team package – gold jersey and socks, black jersey and socks, and team warm up top and bottom. Coaches may require additional items and we will let you know this as soon as teams are selected if there are additional items you will need.

Team Fees:

We will not be able to determine ice allocation until after the conclusion of our tryouts. The Swords organization remains in competition for limited available ice time and may not be able to form a team in

every situation. We continue to make the best use of the limited ice available. Therefore, we will not have final team costs until late May. Team fees are set by coaches and generally range from \$1,800 to \$2,750. Please review the coaching prospectuses' for specific details.

Team Financial Information:

As stated above, we need all families to process an initial deposit of \$400 by Friday, May 11 which will hold a player's team spot. With all teams being announced in the same timeframe, it is critical that players do not delay confirming their intentions so we can make any appropriate roster adjustments. No refunds (or transfers) will be given for the initial team payment which signifies a player's acceptance of a spot on the team. Additionally, all Swords teams will have a monthly payment due on or before the first of each month (July through November). The Refund Policy is included in your initial registration and also posted on the Swords website at [www.swordshockey.com](http://www.swordshockey.com) for your review.

We are very excited that we are opening the door for higher level play for our skaters. Please email Chris Woycke at [cwoycke43@gmail.com](mailto:cwoycke43@gmail.com) or Jennie Tiemeyer at [swordsoffice@gmail.com](mailto:swordsoffice@gmail.com) with any questions.