



2007 U12 Pee wee Major – Team Luzi & Shiverdecker

Welcome to the 2019-2020 Cincinnati Swords Pee wee major team coached by Armand Luzi and Brian Shiverdecker. Our team will be composed exclusively of players born in 2007 and will participate in either the Buckeye Travel Hockey League (BTHL) or in an independent schedule at the appropriate competitive level. The primary mission of the coaches is to create a positive and fun environment to further develop and encourage each player as a hockey athlete and as an individual. In doing this, it is our goal to foster a love for the game that inspires each kid to continue playing the great sport of hockey, fuel a passion for the game that lasts a lifetime, and to prepare them for the next stage of their hockey journeys.

The 12 and under age group is referred to as the golden age of athletic skill development. Therefore, we have a prime opportunity and responsibility to focus the season's training sessions on skill acquisition and the application of skills through small-area, competitive games. The coaches will provide quality demonstrations and continually push players outside their comfort zones to challenge them while holding them accountable for their effort levels. We will emphasize important details such as skating technique, stick placement, shooting technique, puck battles and support strategies, and goalie development. We will also teach positioning and player awareness with and without the puck in all three zones of the ice. It is our belief that having pride in the process of hard work and determination to improve their skill level is what produces a lasting enjoyment of the game and makes it fun.

While each player is expected to be committed to their personal development, each player and parent must recognize and buy in to the fact that hockey is a team sport and everyone is expected to act respectfully and supportively towards their teammates. Furthermore, every player will be expected to behave in practices and games with a team-first mentality rather than an individualistic mentality. Representing the Cincinnati Swords hockey family, it is important for the team to act cohesively and conduct themselves with the highest level of integrity and respect both on and off the ice.

We will plan for two hours of on-ice practice per week from late August to early March and we may also include additional off-ice training sessions for our team. We plan to play approximately 50-55 total games in a combination of league, non-league and tournaments.

The team fee is expected to be between: \$2,100 and \$2,300 per player, based on a roster of 17 players. The fee includes: all practice ice time, all game ice time and official fees, tournament entry fees, Cincinnati Swords administrative player fee, and miscellaneous team fees and supplies. The team fee DOES NOT include travel expenses and team uniforms and apparel, if needed.

Before the season begins, the coaches will plan to hold a team meeting that will cover season and parent/player expectations in detail. Parents will be expected to be supportive of their hockey players, which includes getting players to and from team events on time, respecting game officials, not coaching from the stands, and utilizing the 24-hour rule for comments/concerns after games. Players will be

expected to respect the coaching staff and game officials and to give their best effort at all practices and games. We will start with an assumption of equal playing time. However, attendance, effort, and attitude will have an impact. Ice time is a privilege.

Coach Biographies

Armand Luzi

I grew up in Pittsburgh, PA, went to college at Penn State University, and have lived in West Chester, OH and worked for GE Aviation for the last 13 years. My wife Melissa and I have two sons, AJ (14) and Dominic (11), who both have played play hockey for the Cincinnati Swords since Mites. Hockey has been my true sports passion since I was 8 years old and still is today. I am committed to be a life-long learner and teacher of the game, and I view coaching as a privilege and an opportunity to be a positive influence on the players and to inspire them to be better than they were yesterday. I have a Level 3 coaching certification with USA Hockey and have coached with the Swords travel teams from the Mite through Bantam levels since 2011.

Brian Shiverdecker

Playing Experience:

- 1981-87 Dayton Bluehawks AA
- 1988-90 Cincy Stinger AA
- 1991 Team Indy AAA MNHL
- 1992-Wahpole Island JR Hawks GLJHL, Ontario

Coaching Experience:

- 2003 Assistant Dayton Gems AA Peewee
- 2004 Head Coach Dayton Gems AAA Peewee
- 2014 Assistant Dayton Stealth Mite
- 2015 Assistant Swords Mite Crouch
- 2016 Assistant Swords Squirt Crouch
- 2017 Assistant Swords Squirt Andreae

Personal Information:

- Wife-Anna
- Son-Gunnar
- Grew up in the city of Dayton and work as a detective with the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Special Investigations Unit as a gang detective
- I have a Level 3 USA hockey coaching certificate
- Boston Bruins are my favorite team