



Travel Team Tryout Information Packet

2019-20 Season



Welcome to the Shoreline Sharks 2019-20 Girls Hockey travel team tryouts. We greatly appreciate your interest in joining our organization. Our program is proud of its reputation of having the feeling of a community, with a focus on fundamentals, commitment, hard work, and fun. With these ingredients and our talented, dedicated coaches, caring managers, and supportive parents, we have a winning formula. We believe that hockey teaches our players positive core values that pay lifetime dividends.

We take tryouts very seriously, as we believe it's critical to a player's development to place her with peers of similar abilities and backgrounds, as this enhances their game, practice and social experience. Our tryout program is designed to provide all participants with an equal opportunity to demonstrate their hockey skills. We understand it's a stressful process for parents and players – it's stressful for us, too! With that in mind, our on-ice instructors will do everything possible to maintain a relaxed environment so players can perform to their potential.

We are very excited about the upcoming season. This document focuses on our travel teams. Please visit our website for more information on our Learn to Play clinics and the inaugural season of our Sharks Development Team (house league). Here are the details on our projected team offerings, based on anticipated turnout, and the tryout process. We will communicate the 2019-20 team offering following tryouts and prior to requiring player commitments.

2019-20 Program Highlights

<p>Travel Teams at Three Competitive Levels</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Black (AA): Advanced skills, hockey sense and gameplay, regional/national competition (Tier 2) 2. Green (A): Strong core skills, hockey sense and gameplay, statewide competition (CGHL Division 1) 3. White (A1): Developing basic skills, hockey sense and gameplay, statewide competition (CGHL Division 2)
<p>Travel Teams at All Age Levels</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U8, U10*, U12*, U14*, U16*, U19* (*Potential Black teams) • NEW U12 AAA Dual Roster team (games only for girls who are playing boys hockey)
<p>Multi-League Participation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecticut Girls Hockey League (CGHL) — Green and White Teams • Connecticut Hockey Conference (CHC) — Black Teams • New England Girls Hockey League (NEGHL) — Black Teams
<p>Focus on Development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-season camps • In-season skill sessions • USA Hockey ADM Model • Tournament opportunities • Formal goalie training program • Mid-year and year-end player evaluations
<p>Player Loyalty</p>	<p>“Once a Shark... always a Shark” philosophy ensures currently rostered players are guaranteed a spot with a timely commitment</p>



Tryout Overview

Dates	Multiple – See Chart
Locations	East Haven (Patsy DiLungo Rink) — 71 Hudson Street East Haven, CT Hamden (Louis Astorino Rink) — 595 Mix Avenue, Hamden, CT
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All players must be USA Hockey registered OR present a signed Tryout Waiver.• Tryouts are open to players from any organization. A player release is not needed to participate in tryouts.• Full equipment required for tryouts• Jerseys are included in the tryout fee and must be worn for each session• Attendance at all tryout sessions is expected. Please contact tryouts@shorelinesharkshockey.com if your daughter is unable to attend all sessions.• Players must tryout within their specific age groups. Play up and play down requests must be submitted to tryouts@shorelinesharkshockey.com prior to tryouts. Exceptions are rare.
Tryout Registration	<p>We hold separate tryouts for Green/White and Black teams at the 14, 16 and 19 age levels. If your daughter wants to be considered for Green/White AND Black teams, she must attend the specific tryout sessions for each.</p> <p><i>IMPORTANT: If registering for both Green/White and Black tryouts, we will issue a \$50 discount code when we send out the team invitations that can be applied to your daughter's 2019-20 tuition.</i></p> <p>New Sharks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tryout fees are not refundable and are not applied to tuition. <p>Current Sharks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If your daughter wants to be guaranteed a spot on a team next year, she must attend the age-appropriate Green/White sessions listed below. If your daughter is currently rostered on a U14, 16 or 19 Black team, it is not necessary to attend the Green/White sessions.• If your daughter also wants to tryout for a Black team, she will need to register separately and pay the tryout fee. We expect the Black tryouts to be highly competitive, so if you have any questions about where to place your daughter please talk to your coach or send an email to tryouts@shorelinesharkshockey.com.• Tryout fees are not refundable and are not applied to tuition.
After Tryouts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All current Sharks are guaranteed placement on a team (includes Sharks Hockey Development)!• A signed letter of commitment and a non-refundable deposit will be required to secure a roster position on a team.



Tryout Schedule

Green & White Team Evaluation/Tryout Schedule

Age Group	U8	U10	U12 ¹	U14	U16/U19
Birth Year	2011 and younger	2009, 2010	2007, 2008	2005, 2006	2000-2004
Registration Link	Tryout Registration Link				
Evaluation U08 /Tryout Session 1	Wednesday, March 20 6:00-7:00 PM East Haven	Saturday, March 23 9:00-10:00 AM East Haven	Saturday, March 23 10:10-11:20 AM East Haven	Saturday, April 13 10:15-11:25 AM Hamden	Saturday, April 13 11:35-12:45 PM Hamden
Tryout Session 2		Wednesday, March 27 6:00 - 7:10 PM East Haven	Sunday, March 24 9:00-10:10 AM East Haven	Wednesday, April 24 6:00-7:10 PM Hamden	Wednesday, April 24 7:20-8:30 PM Hamden
Tryout Session 3			Saturday, March 30 9:00-10:10 AM East Haven	Thursday, April 25 6:00-7:10 PM Hamden	Thursday, April 25 7:20-8:30 PM Hamden
Tryout Fee	\$50	\$100	\$125	\$125	\$125

Black Team Tryout Schedule

Age Group	U12 Black AAA Dual Roster Team	U14	U16	U19
Birth Year	2007, 2008	2005, 2006	2003, 2004	2000, 2001, 2002
Registration Link	Tryout Registration Link			
Tryout Session 1	Monday, April 1 6:10-7:10 PM Northford	Thursday, April 11 6:00-8:30 PM (2 Groups) Hamden	Saturday, April 27 4:00-6:30 PM (2 Groups) Hamden	Saturday, April 27 6:40-7:50 PM Hamden
Tryout Session 2		Sunday, April 14 9:00-11:30 AM (2 Groups) Hamden	Saturday, May 4 4:00-6:30 PM (2 Groups) Hamden	Saturday, May 4 6:40-7:50 PM Hamden
Tryout Session 3		Tuesday, April 23 6:00-8:30 PM (2 Groups) Hamden	Sunday, May 5 10:00-12:30 PM (2 Groups) Hamden	Sunday, May 5 12:40-1:50 PM Hamden
Tryout Fee	\$30	\$125	\$125	\$125

¹ U10 and/or 12 Black teams will be formed if the tryout process dictates.



Projected U08-12 Team Structure & Tuition

Final number of teams is dependent on tryout numbers and player commitments for 2019-20.

Age Group & Birth Year		Sharks Development Team (House League)	U8 (2011 and Younger)			U10 (2009, 2010)		U12 (2007, 2008)	
Team Level	Beginner		Green (A)	White (A1)	Black (AAA)	Black (AA)	Green (A)	White (A1)	
Season Start	October 1	October 1	Late September	October 1	Late September	Late September	Late September	October 1	
Season End	End of February	End of February	End of February	End of February	Mid-February	End of February	End of February	End of February	
Target Roster Size (Goalies)	8 per team	12 (Rotating)	14 (1)	14 (1)	14 (1)	14 (2)	14 (2)	14 (1)	
Team Apparel	1 Jersey included	Home/Away Jerseys & 1 pair of socks included	Separate	Separate	Separate	Separate	Separate	Separate	
Full Ice Practices	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	
Practices (max 2 teams per sheet)	No weekday practices. Sunday skill sessions	1-2 Per Week (Alternate # of practices per week)	2x Per Week	2x Per Week	No Practices	2x Per Week	2x Per Week	2x Per Week	
Practice Time Targets	Weekend Afternoons	5:30-8 PM range	5:30-8 PM range	5:30-8 PM range	n/a	5:30-8 PM range	5:30-8 PM range	5:30-8 PM range	
Total Estimated Games (Includes tournaments)	20 Saturday cross ice games	Mostly jamborees to limit travel.	25+ 1-2 per weekend	20+ 1 per weekend	20 1 Per Weekend	40+ 2 per weekend	30+ 1-2 per weekend	25+ 1 per weekend	
Skill Sessions	Sunday skill sessions led by Sharks Coaches	Coach Led	IPH - 1x every other week	IPH - 1x every other week	None	IPH - 1x every other week	IPH - 1x every other week	IPH - 1x every other week	
Goalie Training	Yes	All players encouraged to try goalie. Training Provided	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Leagues	None	Undeclared	CGHL	CGHL	None	CHC NEGHL	CGHL	CGHL	
Tier/USA Hockey Tournament Bound	None	Undeclared	Undeclared	Undeclared	Undeclared - AAA	Tier 2 Level	Undeclared	Undeclared	
League Funded Tourneys (Includes State Tourney)	None	4-6 cross ice jamborees	3	(3) Jamborees	None	4	3	3	
Travel	None	Mostly CT	Mostly CT	Mostly CT	Mostly CT	Regional (Significant)	Mostly CT	Mostly CT	
Other Program Components					Dual Roster Team				
Tuition	\$800	\$1,450	\$2,350	\$2,050	\$750	\$2,850	\$2,550	\$2,350	



Projected U14-19 Team Structure & Tuition

Final number of teams is dependent on tryout numbers and player commitments for 2019-20.

Age Group & Birth Year	U14 (2005, 2006)			U16 (2003, 2004)	U19 (2000-2002)	U16/U19 (2000-2004)
Team Level	Black (AA)	Green (A)	White (A1)	Black (AA)	Black (AA)	High School – Full High School - Split
Season Start	Sept 3 plus summer tourneys	Late September	Late September	Sept 3 plus summer tourneys	Sept 3 plus summer tourneys	Mid-September
Season End	Mid-March	Mid-March	Mid-March	Mid-March	December 1	Full – Mid-March Split – December 1
Target Roster Size (Goalies)	14 (2)	14 (2)	14 (1)	15 (2)	15 (2)	15 (1)
Team Apparel	Separate	Separate	Separate	Separate	Separate	Separate
Full Ice Practices	Yes (Occasionally)	No	No	Yes (Occasionally)	Yes (Occasionally)	No
Practices (max 2 teams per sheet)	2x Per Week	2x Per Week	2x Per Week	2x Per Week	2x Per Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2x Per Week • 1-2 Per Week after 12/1
Practice Time Targets	6:00-9:30 PM range	6:00-9:30 PM range	6:00-9:30 PM range	7:00-9:30 PM range	7:00-9:30 PM range	7:00-9:30 PM range
Total Estimated Games (Includes tournaments)	50+ 2-4 per weekend	35+ 1-2 per weekend	30+ 1-2 per weekend	35+ 1-2 per weekend	20+ 1-2 per weekend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Split - 18+ • Full – 30+ • 1-2 per weekend
Skill Sessions	IPH - 1x every other week	IPH - 1x every other week	IPH - 1x every other week	IPH - 1x every other week	IPH - 1x every other week	IPH - 1x every other week
Goalie Training	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Leagues	CHC NEGHL	CGHL	CGHL	CHC NEGHL (Split)	CHC NEGHL (Split)	CGHL
Tier/USA Hockey Tournament Bound	Tier 2	Undeclared	Undeclared	Tier 2	Tier 2	Undeclared
League Funded Tourneys (Includes State Tourney)	5	3	3	5	3	Split – 1 Full - 3
Travel	Regional (Significant)	Mostly CT	Mostly CT	Regional (Significant)	Regional (Significant)	Mostly CT
Other Program Components	Pre-Beantown Camp			Pre-Beantown Camp	Pre-Beantown Camp	
Tuition	\$2,850	\$2,550	\$2,350	\$2,850	\$1,850	Split - \$1,500 Full - \$2,350

Tryout Process

On ice Tryouts

1. Arrive 60 minutes prior to tryouts
2. Check-in before each session
3. At the first check-in, the player will be provided with a numbered jersey
4. Assigned tryout jersey must be worn at each session (please make sure number is visible)
5. Daily locker room assignments will be posted on the monitor or whiteboard in the rink lobby

Evaluation Process

1. The Shoreline Sharks use a neutral evaluators pool that **does not** include any parent whose child is being evaluated. The evaluation team is comprised of individuals with over 100 combined years of hockey experience. We believe strongly in this approach, as it allows us to handle player placement in an unbiased manner. For our Black team tryouts, a neutral third party (IPH Hockey) is used.
2. During the tryout sessions, players will be asked to exhibit the following in drills and gameplay situations:
 - a. Skating: stride, edges (agility), speed, crossovers, forward & backward skating
 - b. Puck Handling Skills: stickhandling, shooting, passing (giving & receiving), control
 - c. Effort: forecheck, backcheck, tenacity, competitiveness, following instructions
 - d. Game Play Skills: playing under pressure, positional play and hockey sense
3. Player Ranking
 - a. After the on-ice tryout, the evaluators will meet to determine final player rankings. For current Sharks, these final player rankings are based on weighting a player's most recent coaches' evaluation and her tryout performance. For prospective Sharks, the ranking will be based solely on the tryout performance. Teams will then be selected based on these rankings.
4. Selection Guidelines
 - a. All teams — If two players are being considered for the last spot on the same team and both have been evaluated and determined to be of equal skill, the second-year player at that age group will be placed ahead of the first-year player.
 - b. Black teams — Additionally, if two players – one of whom is new to the Sharks – are being considered for the last spot on the same team and both have been evaluated and determined to be of equal skill, the Sharks player will be placed ahead of the player from another organization.
 - c. In support of USA Hockey's ADM model, we place players within their defined age group unless special approval is received from the Sharks Director of Hockey Operations. "Play up" requests must be made prior to tryouts.
 - d. If a player is deemed "not ready" for travel hockey, the player will be placed in the Sharks Hockey Development and/or clinic program.

Communication Process

1. Players will be notified by email of their team placement within 7 days of the completion of the last tryout session for that age group. A signed letter of commitment and a non-refundable deposit will be required to secure a roster position on a team. The timing of team placements will be communicated as follows:
 - a. U8 will be communicated by March 25
 - b. U10 will be communicated by April 1
 - c. U12 will be communicated by April 4
 - d. U14, U16, and U19 will be communicated by May 10
2. Players will be given 24 hours to sign a Letter of Commitment (register) and pay a \$500 down payment (U8 = \$250).

Registration Process (After Tryouts)

You will receive a registration link in your team placement email. Simply click on the link and follow the directions. If you lose or misplace your email, send a request to tryouts@shorelinesharkshockey.com and we will send you a replacement link. If you do not receive an email by the defined date, please double check your spam/junk folder and if still no e-mail then send an email to tryouts@shorelinesharkshockey.com. In addition, we will need the following forms completed (we do not need these forms for tryouts):

1. Letter of Commitment
2. Player Code of Conduct
3. Parent Code of Conduct
4. Consent to Treat
5. Player Release Form (if player played for another organization in the prior year)

The documents will be collected at the Sharks Jersey Fitting Day. In addition, the documents can be scanned and emailed to registrar@shorelinesharkshockey.com or mailed to:

Shoreline Sharks Youth Hockey
ATTN: Registrar
27 Shorelands Drive
Madison, CT 06443

Payment Schedule

Please see the Team Structure & Tuition chart for the tuition for each team. Tuition must be paid in full prior to the team's first practice.

Payment Due Date	U8	All Other Teams
With Commitment Letter	\$250	\$500
May 15, 2019	20% of balance	20% of balance
June 15, 2019	20% of balance	20% of balance
July 15, 2019	20% of balance	20% of balance
August 15, 2019	20% of balance	20% of balance
September 15, 2019	20% of balance	20% of balance

Refunds are subject to the Sharks Refund Policy. [Here is a link to the full policy.](#)

Multi-Child Discount

The Sharks provide discounts to families who have multiple players in our program. The discounts apply only to our travel team players. Sand Sharks, Junior Sharks, and goalies are excluded from the multi-child discount.

- 1st Child – full price
- 2nd Child – \$150 discount
- 3rd Child – \$300 discount
- 4th Child – \$500 discount

2019-20 Tryout & Program FAQ's

What does "Once a Shark ... always a Shark" really mean?

One of the core values of the Sharks organization is growing girl's hockey and providing a place for all who want to play this great game. To that end, all girls currently in the Sharks organization are *guaranteed* a spot on a team next year. We will never "cut" a current Shark and leave her no place to play. The evaluators will determine the correct team placement to maximize each player's development.

Current Sharks

1. If your daughter wants to be **guaranteed** a spot on a team next year, she **must** attend the age-appropriate Green/White sessions.
2. If your daughter also wants to tryout for a Black team, she will need to register separately and pay the tryout fee. We expect the Black tryouts to be highly competitive, so if you have any questions about where to place your daughter, please talk to your coach or send an email to tryouts@shorelinesharkshockey.com.
3. If your daughter only attends the Black Tryouts and is not placed on the Black team, then her placement on a Green or White team will be based on availability (not guaranteed).

Is my daughter guaranteed to play at the same level as she played last year?

No. We understand and value the importance of building long-lasting friendships with teammates. However, our focus is always to make sure players are on the right team based on their unique development needs. For this reason, previous year Shark placements do not guarantee current year team placements.

What leagues do the Shoreline Sharks participate in?

The Sharks participate in the Connecticut Hockey Conference (CHC), New England Girls Hockey League (NEGHL) and the Connecticut Girls Hockey League (CGHL). Each year we "declare" the league and division that each Sharks team will play in. This decision is based on the projected competitiveness of a team for the upcoming season. This information is communicated immediately following tryouts so that parents have the details before making a final commitment. Our goal is to field Black (Tier 2) teams in the U14, U16 and U19 age groups. U10 and/or 12 Black teams will be formed if the tryout process dictates. The remainder of our teams will play in the CGHL. Our portfolio of teams provides playing options for girls at all levels.

What is the Sharks policy on dual roster players?

The Sharks have a formal dual roster policy that complies with all CHC and CGHL rules. [Here is a link to the full policy.](#)

What is the Sharks policy on players "playing up" an age group?

For 2019-20, play up requests must be approved by the Director of Hockey Operations. Our goal is to keep girls in their defined age group. It is rare for us to grant a play up request. The Sharks team portfolio has been designed to provide each player their optimum competition level to foster that player's development. Play up requests are appropriate in certain situations leveraging candid and accurate assessments by our program's experienced coaches and the Sharks Director of Hockey Operations. Play up requests are also governed by the league (CHC or CGHL) in which the team in question participates. Players who wish to be considered for a "play up" exception must formally petition the Director of Hockey Operations at tryouts@shorelinesharkshockey.com prior to tryouts.

What is the Sharks policy on players "playing down" an age group?

One of the benefits of the Sharks long-standing affiliation with the Connecticut Girls Hockey League (CGHL) is the ability for us to petition the league to allow first-year players to play down an age group so that they can play against appropriate competition. "Play down" discussions will occur between the Sharks Director of Hockey Operations and the player's family after tryouts conclude. "Play down" decisions are taken very seriously and always focus on the best interest of the player's long-term development.

Can my daughter play both High School hockey and Sharks U14, U16 or U19?

Yes. The Sharks allow high school players to continue playing with their age-specific Sharks team. Once secondary school players join their teams, their eligibility to continue with the Sharks shall be determined by their secondary school's athletic governing body.

If my daughter is still eligible for U14 but plans on playing high school hockey, for which age group should she try out?

If your daughter still has U14 eligibility, then she should register for the U14 tryouts. Please note your high school intentions on the tryout registration form.

Do the Sharks have a formal goalie training program?

Yes. The Sharks have developed a formal partnership with ProCrease (PCG). ProCrease is the largest instructional hockey organization dedicated solely to goaltending in the Connecticut, New York & New Jersey area; the company also serves organizations and academic institutions in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. PCG was founded in 2008 by Jared Waimon who serves as PCG's owner/founder. Along with a staff of twenty (20) premier goaltending instructors, PCG provides a wide range of services from summer and year-round camps to elite private instruction for prep schools, Division I colleges and youth organizations. The comprehensive Sharks goalie program includes a combination of group and individual instruction as well as a wide range of other benefits such as ongoing player evaluations. Our 2019-20 program details will be published prior to tryouts. Any specific questions can be sent to goalies@shorelinesharkshockey.com.

Do the Sharks have a goalie tuition discount program?

Yes. The goalie discount plan is included in the goalie program package and is available upon request.

What is the cost of team uniforms?

Last year, the package cost for jerseys (home and away), socks (home and away) and a pant shell was \$225. In addition, the Sharks offer a wide range of additional apparel, including warm-up suits, backpacks, t-shirts, etc. We will conduct a jersey and apparel fitting session immediately following tryouts.

What if my daughter is not ready for travel hockey?

For 2019-20, the Sharks will be introducing Shoreline Sharks Development Teams comprised of U12, 14, 16 and 19 players. Players assigned to a Development Team will have the opportunity to be on the ice twice a week. The Development Team is geared toward players that have some skating and hockey experience and who want to get prepared for a Sharks team for the following season. This is a girls-only program that follows the principles of the American Development Model (ADM). Practices will be on Sunday and will focus on skill development in the areas of skating, passing, shooting, and puck handling. Saturday will be game day and will be comprised of cross-ice and small area games to emphasize fun and skill development. The program will be led by the Sharks coaching staff.

Do the Sharks "promote" players after their initial team placement?

Rarely. The Sharks coaching and operations staff is always evaluating the tryout placement of our players to ensure that the player is in the right environment for maximum success. There have been occasions when the Director of Hockey Operations has promoted a player to a higher team. This process usually happens late in the summer or early fall and is generally the result of significant player development. Promotions occur if there is an available roster spot and the player has demonstrated the capability to play at the higher level.

Do the Sharks add players to the roster after tryouts have concluded?

It depends. Requests received after the conclusion of tryouts are evaluated by the Director of Hockey Operations and the Sharks coaching staff. Player assignment is contingent on roster space availability and the player's skill level (ability to play at the designated level), as well as the player securing any required release from her prior team.