

FRAMINGHAM



LADY FLYERS

Girls Program Overview / Frequently Asked Questions





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Framingham Youth Hockey began rebuilding the Girls Program during the 2014-2015 season. At that time FYHP had total enrollment of about 50 girls. This year is the 5th season of the rebuild and FYHP is proud to have grown to almost 120 girls enrolled across the program. Nationally girls represent <14% of all youth hockey players. In Massachusetts girls make up about 21%. FYHP now has >25% girls.

This season the Lady Flyers have 4 girls teams from the 8U to the 14U age groups. In addition to our all girls teams we also support girls that play coed hockey as well as our pilot Lady Flyers Development Program.

For the 2019-2020 season FYHP hopes to offer 5 age level girls teams including full season 8U, 10U, 12U and 14U and a half season 16U team. A half season 19U team is also a possibility. FYHP also intends to continue to offer the Lady Flyers Development Program. To realize these goals FYHP will need the

support of our entire hockey community.



All FYHP Girls Teams are provided with age appropriate, skills based hockey instruction using the USA Hockey ADM (American Development Model).



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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How do we register our daughter?

A: Go to the FYHP Registration Page and select either Lady Flyers for an all girls team, the age level team for coed travel hockey, the Learn to Play Hockey (LTPH) program for new players age 4-9 or the Lady Flyers Development Program (LFDP) for older players who are new to hockey or returning to the game after not playing for a while. Registration is currently open for the LTPH and LFDP. Team registration opens in January through Mid-March.

Q: So how many teams will there be?

A: This will depend upon the number of players and the skill level of our registered girls. During our Girls Program rebuild we have on several occasions combined girls from different age levels to form our teams. It is our goal to offer



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an age level team for everyone (8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U) but it is challenging to predict given the number of options there are for hockey players.

Q: What league will they play in?

A: Most likely the Middlesex Yankee Conference Girl's Hockey League for 10U and above but we are always evaluating the best options for appropriate competition, cost, schedule and travel considerations. 8U has previously played in the coed Valley Hockey League Mite division. This too will be evaluated prior to next season.

Q: Can my daughter play on a coed team AND a girls team? Or a club team and an FYHP team?

A: Absolutely. We only ask that you keep the coaches informed when there are scheduling conflicts.

Q: How will my daughter be evaluated and what happens if she doesn't make a team?

A: All girls looking to play on a girls team are evaluated during the Lady Flyers Evaluations in March. Girls looking to play on a coed team attend the coed team tryouts. Evaluations are based on skating, hockey skills and hockey sense. We strive to place all players on an age and skill appropriate team. In some cases players may be recommended to play in either the LTPH program or the Lady Flyers Development program to obtain more experience and improve their hockey skills before being placed on a competitive team. **FYHP will provide an opportunity for ALL girls to play hockey regardless of skill.**

Q: Who are the coaches?

A: FYHP has many experienced and qualified coaches. All FYHP coaches must apply each season and are selected by the FYHP Coaching Selection Committee. All coaches are trained and qualified under the USA Hockey Coaching Education Program.



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Q: When and where are the practices?

A: FYHP has practice ice at Loring Arena starting the first week of September and running through the end of March. Practice ice consists of multi-team station based practices, the FYHP skills program and ½ ice team practices. There is some variability in the schedule throughout the season especially during the college and high school hockey seasons (Dec, Jan, Feb). FYHP anticipates providing a preliminary Monday through Friday practice schedule for the entire season before the season starts. Weekend practice schedules are released after each block of games are scheduled by the leagues to prevent conflicts and minimize rescheduling.

Q: When and where are the games?

A: Typically our teams play 1 game per weekend within a 30 to 45 minute drive. We strive to have home games at Loring but our leagues do not always select the available ice at Loring.

Q: What is the cost?

A: Tuition is determined by the FYHP program study and is significantly impacted by the relative success of our fundraising efforts throughout the season. For the 2018-2019 season tuition was between \$1200-\$1500 for travel team hockey and \$400 for full season LTPH/LFDP. FYHP is looking to significantly reduce 8U tuition for the 2019-2020 season.

Q: Is the program open to girls outside of Framingham?

A: We welcome all players.

Q: My daughter plays coed and likes it, at what age should she transition to a girls team?

A: This is one of the most challenging questions for girls hockey because there is no one right answer. Every family must decide what is the best option for their hockey player. At the younger ages girls often have physiological advantages over



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boys which helps in coed competition. But some girls just prefer to play with and against girls. Our goal is to provide options for all hockey players. Starting at 14U, boys and girls hockey are actually different games due to the rules regarding checking. This is not to say that girls cannot play Bantam hockey, but the considerations for staying with coed hockey at that level become more complex.

Q: Do you need help?

A: Yes. We can always use assistance. There are WAY more opportunities than you probably realize. Please contact us to discuss.

Q: Who do I contact if I have additional questions, ideas, concerns?

A: Feel free to contact –

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