



Hempfield Ice Hockey Club, Inc.

2309 Lawnwood Ct.
East Petersburg, PA 17502

HEMPFIELD HOCKEY NEEDS YOU! WHY YOU NEED US! GENERAL INFO AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Hempfield Ice Hockey Club, Inc. is a school subsidized, independently run, ALL volunteer organization. We abide by Hempfield School District's academic and substance abuse policies and are proud to represent our district wearing the school colors. We compete in the highest level of local High School Hockey, the CPIHL (Central Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League) Tier 1 Division. Our Home Ice is Lancaster Ice Rink. Each year the club strives to recruit players to field 3 teams, **Middle School** (6-8th with a few select 9th graders), **Junior Varsity** (select 9th-11th graders) and a **Varsity** team consisting of selected 9th thru 12th graders. **Our Goal is to have a team to fit every skater's age and talent level!**

Advantages of playing School Hockey include:

- A dedicated coaching staff committed to promoting ice hockey in an organized, low pressure enjoyable environment.
- Support! A generous school subsidy and a committed Parent Group who handles the administrative needs of our club's players and coaches.
- Pride! Our hockey players are proud of their sport and their teammates and enjoy the recognition they receive from their peers in school. These athletes can earn Varsity Letters like any other sport and become members of the Varsity Club. Seniors are honored each year during a senior night game.
- Varsity jackets and spirit wear are made available for purchase during the season.
- Game results are announced in each of the Hempfield Schools throughout the season.
- Camaraderie! Hempfield Hockey players quickly develop strong, lasting friendships with their teammates.
- Cost Savings! Hempfield Ice Hockey is by far the least expensive hockey program you will find in our local area. The most "bang for your buck" in the form of ice time! Compare our prices and you will see. Your cost decreases with each new skater that joins our program.
- Developmental. Our Middle School and JV Teams are strictly developmental and everyone plays every game!
- Unlike Travel or In-House Hockey, Hempfield Hockey participation counts as a school extra-curricular activity and will reflect positively on a college application. Every Hempfield Hockey skater is highly encouraged to support the Travel/In-House program at the Lancaster Ice Rink (LIR) as an additional source of skill development.

Disadvantages of playing School Hockey include:

- NONE!!!!



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Frequently Asked Questions:

- Q. Can my skater play both Travel and/or In-House hockey and still participate in Hempfield's Hockey program?
- A. Yes! Every Hempfield skater is able and encouraged to do so. Many of our skaters do participate in both Hempfield and Travel/In-House and experience very little, if any, conflict. For more info about the programs at LIR, visit www.lancasterfirebirds.org. You can also find programs at Regency Ice Rink at <http://www.regencyicerink.com>.
- Q. When are the practice slots? When are the games?
- A. Our Middle School team practices every Tuesday from 4 – 5:15 PM at the LIR from early September until mid-February. Varsity and JV practice every Monday from 4 – 5:15 PM at the LIR during the same months. Each team typically skates about 22 practices. Game slots vary from year to year with Middle School typically playing 12 games on selected week nights and occasionally Sunday nights from mid-October thru mid-February. The 12 JV games, in the past, have been scheduled for Sunday evenings. Varsity plays 18 games on selected Mon, Wed, and Friday nights starting in early November with playoffs ending mid-March. Unlike Travel and In-House programs, your weekends are mostly yours!
- Q. If my skater does have a conflict with a Travel Hockey commitment and a Hempfield practice slot, can he still participate in Hempfield games?
- A. Our coaches realize that Travel Hockey is a priority and are open to compromise on certain issues. The coaches are committed to working with Travel skaters who are willing to work with them! We need Travel skaters in our Tier 1 program for their experience and leadership!
- Q. Is car pooling available for those who have difficulty getting to the LIR for the 4:00pm practice slots?
- A. Yes!!! While we do not have an organized transportation pool, we do have many dedicated and helpful parents who would be willing to assist with a skater in need of a ride!
- Q. What if my son tries out and does not make the squad?
- A. First of all, Hempfield Hockey has not turned away a child for many years! We are recruiting for a JV team to further develop and retain every skater who wishes to play hockey with us! This unique opportunity would afford us the ability to roster our experienced skaters on the Tier 1 squad and create a Tier 2 squad to promote development. We strive to have a team for every interested skater.
- Q. What is this going to cost me?
- A. Costs vary by a few dollars from year to year depending on the # of skaters we have in our program. Basically, we figure cost per skater by dividing our fixed costs (ice fees and CPIHL fees, etc., etc.) by the number of skaters to create an average cost per skater. We then adjust fees as necessary to ensure fairness between the 3 teams. Varsity



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typically pays a little more to offset the extra games. Excluding the cost of your skater's jersey set, based on this season's fees with 39 total club members, you can expect to pay in the neighborhood of \$600 (Middle School), \$600 (JV) and \$625 (Varsity). **Obviously, with more skaters participating, your individual cost would decrease!**

Q. Must I participate in Club Fundraising?

A. No! The club does conduct fund-raising activities as needed and parental participation is appreciated. If a fund-raising activity is determined to be mandatory, each player's family will have an option to buy out the mandatory amount instead of selling the products or services in order to raise the money.

Q. Will all games be played at the Lancaster Ice Rink?

A. No. Because we play in the CPIHL Tier 1, we compete against Lancaster, Lebanon, York and Harrisburg schools, with an occasional game in Reading. None of these away rinks are any further than 1 hour drive. Half of our games will be played at home. For more information on the teams with whom we compete, visit the CPIHL website at www.cpihl.com.

Q. What if my skater plays another sport like football, soccer, or even a concurrent winter sport? Can he/she still participate on a Hempfield Hockey team?

A. Yes!! We accommodate any skater who is willing to commit to both sports. We realize there may be conflicts, but, just like in the case of a Travel skater, the coaching staff is willing to compromise. Communication is important in that situation. Currently, there are several boys in our program who compete in fall and winter sports as well as ice hockey.

Q. My 6th grade skater is very small. Is injury a concern because of larger competition?

A. In the past, this issue has deterred many talented 6th graders, who would have excelled, from competing. The school programs were set up to include 6th grader participation. Hempfield needs 6th grade talent in our program to help perpetuate the success of our Middle School! The CPIHL realizes this and has taking steps to eliminate the size disparity at the Middle School level. Ninth graders are no longer allowed to be rostered on the Middle School Team unless the CPIHL deems their skill level to be on par with the average Middle School skater. In other words, those 9th graders capable of skating Varsity and/or JV will not appear on our Middle School team. **This change promotes a safer and fun atmosphere for the younger skaters!**

Q. We live within the borders of Hempfield School District, but, our child attends a Parochial/Private or is home schooled. Can my child still participate in Hempfield's Hockey program?

A. Yes! Each case is treated as an "exception" to the league rules, but, as long as your child is "considering" attending Hempfield from 9th grade until completion of high school, he/she may participate on our Middle School team through his/her 8th grade season. Each case is unique and if there are specific questions, we can get answers for you!

Q. Do you have any programs for Elementary School students?



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- A. We help to recruit elementary age students for the CPIHL Elementary School intramural program held in cooperation with the Lancaster Ice Rick and Regency Ice Rink each spring. The CPIHL sponsors rink time and equipment with fees being very minimal. Additionally, the CPIHL allows 5th Grade skaters to participate in practices and scrimmages as part of the Middle School team at a reduce cost.

An important point to reemphasize is that Hempfield Hockey is completely run by a group of dedicated, volunteer parents and coaches. Parental involvement is expected to some degree due to the amount of work required in assisting with CPIHL home game obligations. Our Board of Directors meets monthly throughout the year to help facilitate the club directives and support the coaches and players in pursuit of their goals. These meetings are open to all players and their parents.

If any interested new or potential new members have additional questions, please contact the club via email at:

HIHC president - president@thehempfieldicehockey.org, or via the

HIHC secretary - secretary@thehempfieldicehockey.org .

Inquiries can also be made through the clubs website at <http://www.thehempfieldicehockey.org/> .