



Hyland Hockey News

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First of all congratulations to our Hyland Cup champions: Squirt C, Squirt B and Bantam B1. Congratulations to the 2nd place teams: PeeWee A, Bantam B2, Bantam A and Major A. Hyland was represented in 6 out of 7 championship games and made it to the semi-finals in all divisions. Congratulations also goes out to our Major AA team for winning the Littleton Thanksgiving tournament.

We're about halfway through the season and Hyland Hills overall has the 2nd best winning percentage amongst CCYHL associations. Each team can get a maximum of 2 points per game. Arapahoe is averaging 1.40 and Hyland Hills is at 1.38 followed by Littleton with 1.35 and then Boulder at 1.17. Hyland and Boulder in the top 4 says a lot about the skill, coaching and player development in our area that has led to a healthy "1-36 Rivalry."

Of particular note is our combined record at Bantam of 36-4-1 with two Bantam B teams in the top 3 in League and having finished #1, #2 in Hyland Cup. We also have a combined 17-1-3 record at Midget Major, which is a complete turnaround from a combined 4-27-0 record last year. We knew going in that our PeeWee teams are developing and we have some great coaches in place at those levels - we have a focus on skill and player development programs on and off the ice. PeeWee A finishing 2nd in Hyland Cup is already showing the right direction. Our Squirts are currently 3rd overall with a combined 18-7-1, which is even more promise of the future and especially when we consider the additional off ice training at Total Hockey may have the greatest benefit for our youngest players at Pee Wee and Squirt going forward. Great job, everyone!

CCYHL playoff venues have been set. Hyland will host Bantam A/B. Foothill will host PeeWee A/B. Littleton will host Squirt A/B/C. These playoffs will be from March 5-8. Eight teams will advance from all divisions.

Midget AA and Midget A playoffs will be played on President's Day weekend from February 13-16. Venues are still being finalized - we will let our teams know venue ASAP. Hyland is under consideration. Four teams will advance at Major AA; Six at Minor AA and 8 at each of Major A and Minor A players.

The 8U inter-Association game season gets underway here in December. The DNHL season is halfway or close to halfway into their season with a number of teams in great position near the top of the standings. Of particular note here is the low number of penalty minutes amongst Hyland Midget teams with Hyland Midget 4 the lowest in the league. Great job to everyone involved and especially our players.

Many of our teams will take a well deserved break over the Holiday season and here is wishing all of you a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy New Year!

Scott Sheehan, BOD President

Jaguars Have Great Success in the Hyland Cup

The Squirt C's had a successful Hyland Cup weekend over a couple of scrappy teams, only being scored on twice through the tournament. The Squirt C's went 4-0-1, with the tie that according to their coach was chalked up to a "turkey hangover." They outshot their opponents' 107 to 35 and out scored them 29 to 2. Squirt C had 13 out of 18 skaters register a point, 11 of which registered multiple points over the long weekend while net minder Zachery Carothers had three shutouts over the holiday weekend.



SQUIRT C

Congratulations to the Squirt B team for winning the recently completed Hyland Cup. After a disappointing tie in their first contest against the Arapahoe Maize squad, the team was victorious in their final 4 games. Over the course of the entire tournament the team surrendered a mere four goals, shutting out the opposition in the final three contests. Incredibly, two of the shutouts came against an Aspen team that registered 22 goals in their other three games. This outstanding defensive effort was the result of the entire team's dedication to a common goal - shutting down the opposition. Pressuring the opponent on every shift, each and every line, defensive pairing and goalie was equally responsible for the championship result. Congratulations again to the Squirt B team on their success in "their house."

SQUIRT B



Jaguars Have Great Success in the Hyland Cup



Another Hyland Cup has come and gone and this year marked the resurgence of the Hyland Hills Jaguars across the board. We had teams in the finals at every age level so congratulations to all of you for making this year such a success!

Our PeeWee A team was no exception as they got all the way to the finals before losing a nail-biter to a tough Aspen team, 1-0. This year's tournament saw many firsts for our team as forwards Tucker Moros (3), Andres Godinez-Andrade (2) and Julie Matthias (1) scored their first goals of the season. Also lighting the lamp for the first time, was defenseman Joseph Millar. Our home tourney also saw a scoring explosion for our crew as we lit the lamp 12 times off of 11 assists. Great teamwork was evident everywhere this past weekend, both offensively and on the defensive end as well. A relentless offensive attack was backed up by devastating hits from the defense as our boys and girl fought for each win.

We began with a 3-2 win over the Jr. Eagles in a hard fought battle that saw our crew hold onto a 1 goal lead against a 6 on 3 attack by the Jr. Eagles as two of our boys spent the last 1:51 of the game in the box. Despite the 2 man advantage, the Eagles upped the ante by pulling their goalie in a desperate attempt to even the score, but our boys would have none of it. Body's were flying as shot after shot was turned back and the crowd got louder and louder until the final horn sounded and the victory was ours. It was an emotional win and a great start to our 2008 campaign.

Our next game saw us fall to the Aspen team we would face in the finals, only this time would not be so close. We scored first but not again and eventually their pressure and teamwork got the better of us and we lost 4-1. Later that same day we got back in the win column with a solid 6-3 win over Wyoming with our boys again finishing up the game holding Team Wyoming scoreless for the final 93 seconds despite another 2 man advantage to the opposition. Our offensive pressure never let up as we jumped on them early and answered back every time they closed the gap. Saturday, we finished up with another close game and a win over Utah 2-1. Josh Benton followed up Sean Cuscaden's excellent performance in net the night before with a stellar performance of his own, guaranteeing us a spot in the finals and a rematch with our old nemesis, Aspen. Excellent goaltending was becoming our trademark as both goalies showed their talents game after game.

The championship saw us once again facing Aspen, the only team to beat us. We were determined to cut down on the penalties as 3 of Aspen's 4 goals in our previous match came on power plays, so we were focused and ready to play clean and smart and just let the chips fall where they may. While we did have 5 penalties, Aspen had 8, so both sides were playing good, aggressive hockey and the final score showed how good both team's defenses were. Aspen scored the game's only goal in the 2nd and shots on goal were 19-18 in favor of the home team. It was a great game with a lot of excellent passing from both teams but ultimately the visitor's took the win and the cup.

Our team has showed great improvement and an unbelievable amount of heart in the month since we played Aspen in the Frightfest tournament and lost 7-0. Their coaches said they really enjoyed the way our guys rallied and never gave up and gave them all they could handle in the final match. Our coaches and parents would like to echo that sentiment and say congratulations again to the PeeWee A team for an excellent 2008 Hyland Cup and thanks for all your hard work! We are looking forward to a busy few weeks before our Christmas break and to the continued excellence of our team as they work together both on and off the ice. Go PeeWee A Jags!

Trying To Fit Into “P” Coat; Student-Athletes’ Parent Walk a Line of Support, Intrusion

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By Tim Warsinskey, Plain Dealer Reporter

For my first 21 years of covering high school sports, I came to understand an unspoken language with high school varsity coaches when they uttered one word:

"Parents."

It spoke gigabytes. I knew what the coach was thinking. We shared an identical image from years on the high school scene: wackos in the stands screaming at officials or stalking outside locker-room doors ready to confront the coach.

Then I became one.

A parent. The guy in the stands with a kid in uniform. It didn't happen overnight, of course. There were countless youth games played, thousands of miles driven and untold drive-thrus visited from the time my son, Ian, was 5 through his senior year at Mentor High. Hockey and baseball were his sports. He became a two-sport starter and earned four varsity letters before graduating in June.

He learned a lot, and of course, so did I.

Here are the 10 biggest lessons I learned from being a high school sports parent:

No. 1. Have no expectations, for your child or the coach. If you go into his or her freshman year thinking "This kid is going to be a star," you have just set the bar too high.

Trophies won from ages 5 to 15 do not mean a thing. What he or she did on the freshman and junior varsity teams is almost as unimportant. So many kids who are young all-stars will fade away. Even among the seemingly "sure bets" as sophomores, some will lose interest, quit, peak early, become ineligible or get kicked off the team.

Conversely, for the little ones, puberty is like a magic bean. It takes them to unexpected places. I'm 5-7. My wife is 5-foot-nothing. My son grew to be 5-10 and a better athlete than either of us ever were combined. It was an astonishing transformation, and you will be amazed at the kids who weren't stars at early ages who stick with it and become valuable varsity performers.

No. 2. Give your kid space. Let her enjoy her successful moments and figure out how to deal with defeat, failure and disappointment. Don't get too wrapped up in the wins and losses. Your job is to make sure your child does not get too high after a win or too low after a loss.

No. 3. Try to have an objective view of your kid's ability and build on his or her strengths. Don't tear him down by telling him what he did wrong unless the child comes looking for constructive criticism. Most of the time, the kid knows it better than you.

No. 4. Let your child make decisions that matter, with one caveat. When he or she considers quitting - and most high school athletes have that moment - make the child understand quitting

Jaguars Have Great Success in the Hyland Cup

Congratulations to Bantam B1 for winning the Hyland cup. The B1 team went through the tournament undefeated, tying one game and out scoring their opposition twenty-two to two. The championship game against the Hyland B2 was a nail biter. The B1 team put thirty-three shots on net and three periods were not enough as it went overtime. Ryan Bochert was able to put one in snapping the zero zero tie. Way to go guys!



Bantam B1



Bantam B-2 Earning Respect From the League! If you first hear the title "Bantam B-2" you may question the heart and talent of this group of skaters. But the B-2 label is misleading. With a 4-1-1 record, the Bantam B-2 Jaguars are slowly but steadily earning the respect of teams in their league. They are a diamond in the rough. With a supportive parent and coaching network, Bantam B-2s are on their way up the division's standings. Hard work, determination, and preparation have been the keys to the early success of the team.

Bantam B2

Team Update

8U - C White

Thanksgiving weekend was an exciting time for the members of C White! Our team participated in six games in the Jamboree at the Apex Center. On Friday morning, we played back to back games with two Arvada teams. The games were fast paced and exciting! Nobody is sure of the exact score, but we were victorious in both games by quite a large margin. In the first game, our fantastic goalie, with the help of the whole team was able to walk away with a shutout! On Saturday morning, we played back to back games as well. Once again we won both games. Finally on Sunday afternoon, we closed out the Jamboree with two more wins! We were undefeated all weekend. Everyone played so well and worked hard on playing their position. Even though they were all getting tired by Sunday's games, all of the kids kept trying. Way to go C White!

Zack Pfannenstiel #19



Nickname: Z Man

Current Team: D White

Year of Birth: 2001

What city do you live in? Thornton

What is your favorite pre-game meal? Spaghetti

Do you have a favorite hockey song? Crazy Frog by Axel F

Who is your favorite NHL hockey player? Darin McCarty

What is your most memorable hockey moment? The time I knocked somebody out.

Noah DeSouza #1

Nickname: The Wall

Current Team: D White

Year of Birth: 2000

What city do you live in? Boulder

What is your favorite pre-game meal? Donuts

Do you have a favorite hockey song? I don't have one

Who is your favorite NHL hockey player? Patrick Roy

What is your most memorable hockey moment? Just being a goalie.



Zack Mazer #6



Nickname: Laser

Current Team: D White

Year of Birth: 2000

What city do you live in? Thornton

What is your favorite pre-game meal? Ramen noodles - beef

Do you have a favorite hockey song? Theme from Miracle movie

Who is your favorite NHL hockey player? Peter Budaj

What is your most memorable hockey moment? Scoring on my knees when I was in B pool.

Coaches Corner

USA HOCKEY Coaching Certifications



All coaches, head and assistant, must be certified by USA Hockey by December 15th to be allowed to coach with their teams after Dec 31st. If you have not been certified, please take this LAST opportunity this year to get certified. Please check the link below for more information.

The last coaching clinics of the year will be:

- **Level 3 Dec 15th**

("Trying To Fit Into "P" Coat" Continued from page 4)

No. 4. Let your child make decisions that matter, with one caveat. When he or she considers quitting - and most high school athletes have that moment - make the child understand quitting is not the first option, especially once the season has begun. Dealing with adversity and persevering are important lessons.

No. 5. Grades really are the most important thing. The chances that he or she will get a college sports scholarship are almost nil, and even if the stars align and that happens, the kid still has to have good grades.

No. 6. Don't ignore injuries or signs of extreme mental and physical fatigue. If he or she is hurting, find out what it is. Playing injured can hurt the team and your kid's long-term health.

No. 7. Let your child fight his or her own battles with the coach, especially with regard to the No. 1 complaint: playing time. Your kid has to learn how to deal with adults. It's part of growing up. He or she will have to confront professors and bosses, and this is a good place to learn. If it's another issue and you find it necessary to get involved, always wait a day to talk to the coach. Let your emotions subside and think clearly about the point you want to make. If you suspect there is hazing or abuse taking place, report it to the athletic director or principal immediately.

No. 8. Support the team and be a good fan. Volunteer, and don't wait to be asked. Attend booster club meetings. Get to know the other parents. Make your own positive experience in the stands, no matter what is going on below. When you're at the game or event, cheer for everyone on your kid's team, not just your own. Don't be the jerk in the stands, the one yelling at the coach, your team, the other team, and mostly the officials. You are embarrassing your school, your kid and yourself. If you don't have anything good to say, sit down and shut up. If you're not enjoying yourself, stay home. You won't be missed.

No. 9. Understand these are competitive sports. It's not Little League where every kid gets to play. There's going to be disappointment, heartache, unfairness and injuries. Unless it ends in a state championship, it will end in defeat. Your kid is going to make mistakes. The coach will yell at him or her. That's what they do. Let it happen. He or she is not a baby anymore.

No. 10. Enjoy the ride. It will go by fast. Hug your child when it's over.

Putting 8U in Perspective

Being the Director of the 8U at Hyland for the past four years has really put the 8 and Under Division in perspective for me. I remembered when my sons first joined Hyland and when I coached at the 8U level I wanted my boys and our teams to always be competitive and to play hard. When our 8U teams won, I was a great coach and when we lost, somehow it had to be my fault. I pushed my boys to strive to be the best on their team and when they did not, I told them what they did wrong. In every way, I was the overpowering parent who puts too much pressure on their kid to perform.

When I was asked to be the Director of the 8U I had to take a step back from helping out on my son's team and concentrate on running the program. In retrospect, it was one of the best things that could have happened. I started missing games and practices because I had one son in Travel and the other in the 8U. I would miss games and practices because I had to meet an 8U parent or gather up jerseys or do something else that was 8U related. When I saw my boys I asked how their game or practice went and they would always respond "I was great dad, I did..." and I would always respond positively by saying "great job, keep up the good work".

When I did have a chance to make a game or practice, I would always be amazed at the new things my boys were doing on the ice. I would tell them after the game "Wow, that was amazing, you played great today" and it was great to see the smiles on their faces. Over time, I noticed that by always being positive and giving them positive feedback, the better they played.

Then that day came when it finally hit me that possibly that it was my pressure that I was placing on them that was keeping them from enjoying the game that they love. By sitting back and letting them make whatever team they were selected for and always being there to support them, the more fun they had playing hockey.

Every year I see the parent that I was in our 8U teams. I see them pressuring their son or daughter to push to the next level so they can be selected to move up at Christmas or to jump pools during the summer. I see the sad faces on the kids who just want to please their parents and it reminds me of the looks my kids used to give me.

Let me tell you that the pressure to make an 8U team is nothing compared to what you have in store when they become Squirts. Be glad that your son or daughter is in the 8U and be happy for them at whatever level they play. Let them have fun and be there to support them along the way.

The below is an article that was sent to me and unfortunately, I do not know who the author is. I just thought that it was such a good article that I would be nice to share with our membership. So I just want everyone to know that I did not write the below; but I think that it ties nicely to what I have written above even if it has nothing to do with an 8U team.

By: Rob Cuscaden, 8U Director

From Third Lines to Headlines

Sometimes a kid just doesn't know when to quit. Sometimes a kid just keeps coming back for more despite personal setbacks, being cut from teams, and enduring people telling him in one way or another that he's just not good enough. Sometimes a kid proves them all wrong, rises above adversity and succeeds in ways that only he believes possible. And sometimes it's a good thing, a really good thing, because the world of college hockey wouldn't be the same without the players who simply don't know the meaning of the words can't, quit, or defeated.

By Michael Whiteman-Jones

Success.

That's the one word that best summarizes the Bantam AA team's season so far this year.

Led by Head Coach Jamie O'Leary and assistant coach Marcus Baxter, the team has become the most successful Bantam AA team in HSHA's recent history by posting a 27-6-1 record and scoring 189 goals against its opponents while allowing a meager 58 goals.

The team dominates the standings in the Colorado Competitive Youth Hockey League (CCYHL) and swept the prestigious Rocky Mountain Silver Stick Tournament in October for the championship. It also claimed second place in the Colorado Hockey Club's Rampage in the Rockies tournament in October and in the recent Dallas Stars Fall Round-Up tournament, where it lost only to the Dallas Junior Stars Bantam AAA team in a hard-fought battle for first place.

"We have a lot of work to do as we prepare to head into the final half of the season, but I expect us to perform well at the Silver Stick nationals in Port Huron in January and we are positioned extremely well to take a run at the state championship next spring," O'Leary says. "If the boys stay focused on their development as a team, we should have an outstanding end to our season."

Much of the credit for the team's winning ways goes to its defensive crew. Converted forward Lance Pennington, for instance, is a heads-up speedster who works the defensive zone with the patience of Job, often dropping in unexpectedly to become a scary offensive threat. Big Nate Mikesell is a bruising hitter who recently stunned his opponents at the Fall Round-up in Dallas by racking up 7 points to become the tournament's fourth highest scorer. Austin Shick is powerful, smart menace who was sidelined by a broken collarbone a few weeks ago but is itching to get back on skates and exact a little revenge on his foes. Blue liners Blake Couture and Evan Kihn play with an intensity and love of the game that locks the ice down in chilling fashion, while Nate Guymon and Keegan McCarthy put fear into their rivals' hearts with their intimidating size, strength and ferocity.

In net, goalies Sammy Bernard-Boymel and Ryan Fay practically live standing on their heads and have stonewalled all but the most gifted or lucky shooters by saving 90 to 95 percent of the shots they've taken. Although they have radically different styles between the pipes, the boys are great teammates and fast friends both on and off the ice. They share a camaraderie normally reserved for tag-team wrestlers, and provide excellent leadership to the rest of the team by example.

Offensively, the team is loaded with good stick handlers and skaters who are also fast, smart and strong. The forwards take control of most games by playing well at both ends of the ice, breaking the puck out quickly and peppering their opponent's goalies with dozens of shots. They employ a very potent power play, and are astonishingly effective when they're down a man or two, scoring 60-70 percent of the time on penalty kills with an aggressive system implemented by O'Leary.

It's difficult to single out forwards for their play because the team's success truly is built on teamwork rather than individual skill—this is Bantam hockey, after all. But winger Dawson Pascale has the rare gift of being fast and strong, and he often uses those tools to steal the puck off defensemen's sticks and blow by them on his way to the net before they can react. If they do manage to catch him, they often find themselves looking up at him from the ice or taking a quick trip to the penalty box for hooking. Center Scott Smoot and wingers



Team building has been a key part of the Bantam AA team's success. We're all this cart together--as Lance Pennington, Nate Guymon, Evan Kihn and Dawson Pascale proved while on a recent scavenger hunt in Dallas, Texas.

Mitchell Dumler #19



How Long has your child been a Jaguar? Mitchell started playing roller hockey in first grade. He switched to ice and became a Jaguar at the age of eight. He is a first year bantam and currently in his fifth year of travel hockey.

Who is your child's favorite Hockey Player? His favorite player is Paul Stastny of the Colorado Avalanche.

What team does child play on? He is the assistant captain on Bantam B2.

Favorite Music or past-time? In the spring, Mitchell plays Lacrosse for Boulder Valley. He also loves to golf and snowboard in the off season.

Accomplishments, Awards or Certificates: On his last report card, Mitchell earned a 4.0 gpa. He is an honor student in the International Baccalaureate program at Century Middle school. He was recently recognized with a positive attitude award from one of his teachers.

Dylan Eberharter #14



How Long has your child been a Jaguar? Dylan has been a Jaguar since 2002.

Who is your child's favorite Hockey Player? Dylan loves the Avs and watches every game! Peter Budaj is his favorite player but he likes all of the players and knows all of their stats. He is their number one fan.

What team does child play on? Dylan is on Pee Wee B. He plays center. This is his first year of travel hockey and he is really enjoying being on the ice so much. He feels like he has really improved.

Landon Waddle



How Long has your child been a Jaguar? Landon has played for Hyland for 9 years.

Who is your child's favorite Hockey Player? His favorite player is Joe Sakic.

What team does child play on? He is on DNHL PeeWee 3.

Favorite Music or past-time? He likes to listen to rock and country music and enjoys going to the movies.

The Lephew Triple Threat

The oldest is Veronica and has initially become a Jaguar 2004, Nicholas has been a Jaguar since 2000 and Michael has been a Jaguar since 2002. Veronica plays on DNHL Migdet 5 as well plays on a all girls team in the MGSHL, Monarch high school girls ice hockey team. She also has lettered in lacrosse for her high school Mountain Range. Veronica recently got her driver's license. Nicholas is currently on Bantam B1 and Mikey is on Squirt C All three are big fans of Adam Foote. The oldest two are also crested officials. The boys' biggest past times outside of hockey involves Xbox and pretending that their room is clean. When Veronica finds free time she prefers to hang out with her friends.



Benton Brothers



Joshua Benton is a goalie for the HSHA Pee Wee A team. He has been playing hockey since he was 6 years old. When Joshua was five we visited the ice arena to sign his sister up for ice skating lessons. Joshua insisted he did not want to learn to skate. Upon arriving at the rink, little did his parents know that the ice center would become their home away from home. Joshua wandered off to look through the windows over the green rink while his mother was signing, Danielle his sister up for lessons. I found him watching a bunch of young hockey players with huge eyes and excitement I had never seen before. He stated, "I'm doing that!" His mom went back to the front desk and signed him up for lessons too. Joshua has a passion for hockey; he enjoys skating out, but thrives in goal, and has gravitated to that position since he was in U8 B pool. This is his 3rd season in goal, and he absolutely cannot imagine playing any other position. Joshua's favorite hockey player is Martin Brodeur of the New Jersey Devils. Joshua hopes to someday play college hockey for DU or Boston College, and wants a career in the "Hockey World."

Nathaniel Benton plays defense for HSHA 8U D-White team. He has been playing hockey since he was 4 1/2 years old. He was very excited to play hockey after watching his brother play hockey for 2 years. He began in the A pool with Coach Lephew and scored 2 goals in his first game of the season. This was definitely a motivator to keep him playing hockey. Nathaniel enjoys playing all positions except for goalie as that is his brother's position. Nathaniel loves to play all sorts of sports and just recently he has decided hockey "might" be his favorite sport. He is looking forward to playing in Squirts next season. Nathaniel's favorite NHL player is Joe Sakic.



("Bantam AA Success" Continued from page 9)

George Gruber (out for a few more weeks with a broken wrist) and Jackson Barliant contribute physical tenacity, uncanny positional play and seemingly boundless energy to work the puck to the net. Their work ethic sets an example for the entire team. Winger Brandon Brewer is a brick house on skates—extremely tough to move out of a scoring lane and an intimidating force every second of every shift.

Point leaders have traded places all season long, but the team's current top three scorers are wingers Mitch Coan and Gabe Whiteman-Jones and center Cody Thompson.



Bantam AA center Matt McNichols will put the puck in his teeth and carry it into the net if necessary.

Coan has 51 points. He's blazing fast, a master of the toe drag and deke, and his creative, unorthodox skating style is difficult to defend, especially when a penalty kill or power play opens the ice up and allows him to skate more freely. Power winger Whiteman-Jones has 47 points and thrives as a defensive forward because he's strong on his skates and is a bone-crushing hitter. But he also has a college-level 80-mile-per-hour slap shot and is always a scoring threat in a scrum. Both wingers are centered by Matt McNichols, a scrappy, intelligent playmaker who sees the ice extremely well and moves the puck with a quiet calm that makes him seem more like a Midget than a Bantam.

Thompson has 43 points overall, and currently leads league scoring with 21 points. He almost hypnotizes defensemen with his stick handling and cycles the puck well with line mates Kyle Wellborn and Mac Pitts, top point getters in their right who also have outstanding hands and great hockey vision. Thompson has a wicked wraparound shot and frequently catches goalies off guard by spinning around to shoot rockets into the net from almost anywhere at almost any time—even as he's leaving the ice for a shift change.

For his part, O'Leary says it's a pleasure to coach this season's Bantam AA team.

"I've rarely worked with a team that's not only stacked with talent but also has a very strong work ethic and the desire to put team first as they pursue their dream of winning state and getting a crack at nationals," O'Leary says. "I couldn't be more proud of every member of this team right now."



The Pond Hockey Tournament is designed to allow players to have fun over the Holiday Break while improving their on-ice creativity.

December 27 and 28, 2008 -Ice Centre at The Promenade



Cost Per Player: \$ 85.00

Divisions: 8U C/D Squirr PeeWee Bantam Midget



Registration Deadline: December 20, 2008

Winter Classic



3 on 3

Pond Hockey
Tournament

2008



Please visit www.coloradoutlaws.org or www.hhha.org for additional information and registration details or please feel free to contact: Brian Sutton – suttsy12@comcast.net - 720-273-6365 or David Evens – dsevens@hotmail.com - 720-840-9015

("Putting 8U in Perspective" Continued from page 8)

Air Force senior forward Eric Ehn never listened to the detractors, never got too discouraged, and never gave up on his dream of playing hockey at the highest levels. In 2007, the kid who 7 years earlier was cut from his midget team as a 16 year old was named one of the three best players in the nation. Eric Ehn was a Hobey Baker Hat trick finalist in his junior year at the Air Force Academy. Not bad for a former fourth liner.

Air Force coach Frank Serratore tells Eric's story best. "When Eric was growing up, he never made any of the Triple "A" teams in the Detroit area. He always had to play at the lower level. He was in his last year of midgets, so he went and played Junior "B" or Junior "C" for some league I had never heard of before. Well, he caught the eye of a North American Junior team, they brought him in the next year and he went and played in the North American league. He caught the eye of a USHL team the next year; he went to Green Bay, and played in the USHL. We presented him with an opportunity to come play here at the Academy and he took it. He was a third line center at Green Bay in the USHL; a third line USHL center, but he came here."

"He came to a program that was going to provide him with the opportunity to be the kind of player that he wanted to be. I don't think he would have been a real good fourth line player, a role player type. He needed to be in a position where he had the puck on his stick. He was a first or second line center who needed to be called upon to win big draws and anchor a power play. And here's a kid that couldn't make his triple "A" team as a young player."

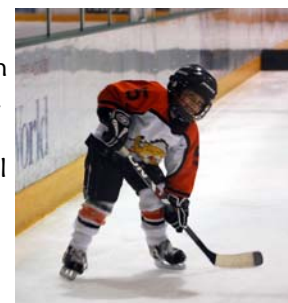
Coach Serratore feels Eric's story needs to be told to all the kids who have ever tried out and been cut from a team. "Eric's story should be told to all these kids who are trying out for teams, because more kids are going to get cut from top teams than make top teams. Kids need to read a story like this to say, 'you know if I don't make the top team when I'm a squirt or a peewee or a bantam or a midget, that's not the end of the road; that doesn't mean I'm done. I'm going to keep playing this game and whatever team I make I'll aspire to be the best player on that team, and to be the best teammate I can to the people on that team. ' And eventually you can make it. I remember asking Eric, didn't you get mad? Didn't it anger you when you didn't make those teams? He kind of smiled and said; 'it angered my mom more than it angered me.' I just wanted to play."

Jr. Jag Jamboree for A and B Pool Teams



Hyland Hills will host the annual Jr. Jag Jam on December 27th and 28th at the Promenade Ice Centre.

This jamboree will be a fun and exiting time for all participants.



Hockey Office Updates

- ◆ Car bumper stickers are available in the hockey office for both Hyland Hills Jaguars and the Colorado Outlaws. The stickers are round with the team logo for only \$5. They make great stocking stuffers for the holidays. Contact Colleen Sheehan or Dianne Wirth.
- ◆ The association has published Fund-Raising Guidelines for all teams to follow when participating in team fund-raising. The guidelines can be found on the HSHA website. Please remember that ALL team fund-raisers must get the approval of the Fund-Raising Committee. Please contact Marcet Evens at marcetevens@msn.com if you have question or need approval.
- ◆ Final ice bills will be e-mailed to all members mid-December. Please look for these e-mails and contact Diane Wirth at diane.wirth@hsha.org if you do not receive them by December 20th. Fees are due in full by January 10th.

BOD Meetings

- ◆ Upcoming BOD meeting is scheduled for January 5th. BOD meetings will be held the second Monday of every month starting at 6:00 pm in the party room at IPAC. All association members are invited and welcome to attend. For more information contact Kristy Matthias at kristymatthias@yahoo.com.

The Hyland Hockey News is published by Hyland Hills Junior Hockey Association

Brian Sutton, Executive Hockey Director
Jamie O'Leary, Assistant Hockey Director
Lisa Wildrick, Assistant Program Director
Marcus Baxter, ACE Coordinator
Kyle Sutton, Goaltending Consultant
Colleen Sheehan, Registrar/Office Admin.
Diane Wirth, Player Accounts/Office Admin.

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We welcome any newsletter comments, suggestions or stories, please submit them to:

Chief Editor:

Denise McClure dmcclure4@gmail.com