

About the North Branch Area Hockey Association

The North Branch Area Hockey Association (NBAHA) is comprised of approximately 120 families that live in the North Branch Public Schools District 138 region. During the 2006-07 season, there were 150 skaters. Our association was in a co-op with Cambridge/Isanti last year at the traveling team level. Through the co-op, we fielded six traveling teams at the Bantam, Pee Wee and Squirt levels. This year, we are in a co-op with St. Francis and anticipate between the 2 associations having a B1 and B2 Bantam team, an A, B1, B2 and C PeeWee team, and an A, B1, B2 and C Squirt team. This past season, we had 5 Mite teams (1 C Mite, 1 B Mite, 2 A Mite and 1 Initiation Mite team) that competed at the house program level.

We endeavor to build strong ties within our community and to that end, began a "Learn to Skate" program in 2001-02 to teach first-time skaters the basics of ice skating. Since its inception, this series of skating clinics has been well attended by children in our community.

The overall population growth in our area is increasing and we are currently working on an aggressive fundraising campaign to build an indoor ice arena. The associations goal is to have an arena built and be skating in it by Fall 2008. We believe that an indoor facility will enhance and improve the quality of life for citizens of the North Branch area.

Our association has been in existence for over 30 years and continues to promote sportsmanship, discipline and teamwork throughout all levels of play. NBAHA parents and friends have volunteered countless hours and generous community sponsors have come forward to support North Branch hockey over the years. We consider ourselves extremely fortunate to have the kind of support from our parents, friends and community that we enjoy today.

Mission Statement

North Branch Area Hockey provides training to the youth of our community that promotes sportsmanship, discipline and teamwork. These positive ethics build a foundation for a lifetime of good citizenship.

When and where is registration?

Returning Skaters at all Levels

Mail in Registration

Pick up Fundraising Materials: Thursday, Sept. 13th from 7:00 – 9:00 pm at the North Branch Library Community Room

New Skaters at the Squirt, PeeWee, Bantam levels

Call 651-674-4152 for information and to register!

Mite Information Night For New Skaters

Who: Boys & Girls, Preschool through 3rd grade
Ages 4 through 8

When: September 20, 2007 at 6:30 pm

Where: Outdoor Shack South of the High School. Bring your lawn chair.

1st year skaters bring a copy of your birth certificate!

For specific registration questions, please leave a voicemail at 651-674-4152 or email registrar@northbranchhockey.com.



North Branch Area Hockey Association



Questions?

Please leave a message on the NBAHA voicemail at 651-674-4152 if you have any questions. Your call will be returned promptly.

or visit us at
www.northbranchhockey.com

www.northbranchhockey.com

What is being on a NBAHA hockey team all about?

- Have Fun
- Learn to Skate
- Learn Hockey Skills
- Learn Sportsmanship
- Learn Discipline
- Learn Teamwork
- Make New Friends
- Play Hockey!!!



Learn to Skate

The Learn to Skate sessions are for children ages 4-8 or beginning skaters and are offered at a nominal fee. A fall session is offered at a local indoor ice arena and a winter session is offered at the outdoor rink by the High School. Sessions are taught by NBAHA coaches and skaters from upper level team. Come join the fun and learn a skill that can be enjoyed for a lifetime.

For more information on Learn to Skate visit our website or give us a call.

Levels of Play

NBAHA accepts registration from boys and girls between the ages of 4 through 14 years old. There is no guarantee that all teams listed below will be formed in any given season. Teams are formed based on number of skaters, age and ability.

Initiation	This program teaches the most basic skills of hockey and is intended for the children that want to give hockey a try. Skaters need to be 4 years old by 9/1/2007.
A Mite	This program is a fun time to meet new friends while strengthening skaters skating abilities. Focus will be on skating, stopping, stick handling & shooting. Skaters with birthday's between 7/1/01 – 6/30/02.
B Mite	Focus will be on continuing with skating, stopping, stick handling, shooting, and adding team concepts, positioning, & passing. Skaters with birthday's between 7/1/00 – 6/30/01.
C Mite	Focus will be on continuing with positioning, passing, and adding more team concepts. Competition enters the game. Skaters with birthday's between 7/1/99 – 6/30/00.
D Mite	Focus will be on improving our ability & competition is our game. Skaters with birthday's between 7/1/98 – 6/30/99.
Squirts	All the hours of drills has finally paid off! Applying plays you've learned and being challenged. Traveling starts to be our game. GRADES COUNT. Ages 9 & 10 by June 30th or entering 4 th grade.
PeeWees	Contact becomes part of our game, plays getting harder, more hours of ice-time; traveling more and listening is crucial. GRADES COUNT. Ages 11 & 12 by June 30th or entering 6 th grade.
Bantams	Checking is our game! Speed is essential! All previous levels are applied. Friends, learning, competition, traveling, and MOST IMPORTANTLY THE GRADES. Ages 13 & 14 by June 30th or entering 8 th grade.
U8, U10, U12, U14	For girls ages 5 through 14. Our association has not had enough girls interested in playing on a girl's team to field our own teams. As a result, girls that are interested in playing on one of these teams can be waived to another association hosting a girl's team. This year, we are encouraging the girls to play with St. Francis since we will be in a co-op with them.

Hockey Season

NBAHA's hockey season starts in September with Learn to Skate and evaluations and most teams start practice in October and skate through mid February to mid March. The number of practices and games per week varies by Level of Play. The lower the Level of Play, the less number of practices and games per week. Final schedules for practices and games are not available for each team, until ice has been purchased from other arenas and games have been scheduled. Schedules are provided to parents as soon as they are available and are subject to change throughout the season. Parents will be notified by their team managers of any changes.



Where do we skate?

Since NBAHA does not currently have an arena, indoor ice time is purchased for practice and home games from other arenas in the area. For the 2007-2008 season, NBAHA is in a co-op with St. Francis association. As a result, all indoor practices and home games will be held at East Bethel arena. An outdoor rink is located next to the High School and is also used for practice.

What Equipment is Needed?

Shin Pads*	Helmet
Elbow Pads*	Skates
Gloves*	Stick
Shoulder Pads*	Mouth-Guard
Breezers*	Athletic support
Hockey Socks (Red – Black-White)	

A starter kit (items with a *) are available to 1st year skaters in the Initiation or A Mite levels to use.