



Dear AAHA Members,

For those of you new to hockey at the Squirt level and above, I thought I'd give a little bit of explanation as far as fees. Appleton Area Hockey Association (AAHA) does not own the rink. We rent ice at a cost of about \$225 per hour from Appleton Family Ice Center (AFIC). We try to give each team 2-3 practices per week (some shared, some full ice) and ten (10) home games. Ice fees alone per team are approximately \$11,000.

Depending on the age of the players, our referee costs per game are \$47-\$67 per game. That covers two referees and the referee association scheduling fee (\$470-\$670 for the season per team). In addition, AAHA must pay for background screening of all volunteers coming in contact with youth athletes (USA Hockey mandate) and pay a WAHA State Tournament fee for each team above Cross-Ice level. Since our coaches are volunteers, and MUST be USA Hockey certified, AAHA picks up the cost of coaching certification.

AAHA also maintains insurance, replaces/repairs jerseys, hosts our website, maintains hockey supplies/equipment, etc. All these little expenses add up to quite a lot when you're talking about 250-300 skaters. We make every effort to keep costs to a minimum and run very tight at the end of the year.

If you are looking to offset your skater's fees AAHA offers Scrip. SCRIP is a gift certificate/gift card purchase program. These cards are equivalent to, and are used just like cash. We offer AAHA families a broad selection of gift cards for purchase at their full retail value. AAHA is able to purchase the cards at a discount and the difference between the face value and the discounted purchase price is the profit amount. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be 90% credited to the skater's account; 5% to the AAHA scholarship fund; and 5% to SCRIP program administration. See the left side of our website homepage for the Scrip link.

Financials will be discussed at the Parent's Meetings schedule for Tuesday, September 27 and Thursday, October 6. If you have any questions after those meetings, I would be more than happy to sit down with you to go over AAHA's financials and explain how the board determined this year's fees.

Sincerely,  
Patrick Hartel  
President, AAHA