



2013 - 2014
Vikings Hockey Club
Family / Player Manual

Revised 8/2/13



The ***Vikings Youth Hockey Club (Vikings)*** welcomes your family to this season of youth hockey. We are excited you have chosen the Vikings for your child's youth hockey experience. The goal of the Vikings is to offer an enjoyable hockey experience wherein youth have fun, learn about the game, test themselves in friendly competition, and grow through teamwork and sportsmanship.

This manual has been provided to serve as a guide to the board members, parents, team managers, players, and coaches of the Vikings. If it is referred to regularly, consistency and continuity can be achieved throughout the entire hockey program. Changes in policy and guidelines may take place from time to time. The Vikings will make every effort to keep this manual up to date.

If you have questions about anything, please be sure to ask. All board of directors can be reached via email, posted on our website, www.vikingsyouthhockey.org.

Each player and parent participating in the Vikings shall be required to review this manual and sign an agreement (page 9) in which they agree to follow the policies and procedures set forth in this manual.

We look forward to a great hockey season!

The Vikings Board of Directors

Under the Internal Revenue Code 501 (c) (3),

Vikings Youth Hockey is a non-for profit organization.



Table of Contents

Team Day	1
Fall Fees	1
Participation Hours – for Viking’s Families	2
Warm-ups	2
Player Jerseys	2
Helmet Decals	3
Fundraising	4
NIHL Wolves Tickets	4
Team Information	4
Collecting \$	5
Injury Credits	5
Leagues	6
Scheduling	6
Game Limits	6
Tournaments	6
Off Ice Facility	7
Open Board Meetings	7
Player Patches	7
Academic Achievement	7
Team Photos	8
Website	8
Off-Ice Officials	8
Exhibition Games	8
Viking Board Positions	8
Agreement	9

Team Day

All Vikings players and their families are required to attend Viking's team day on Saturday, September 14th, 2013 at your assigned time. On Team Day, all forms will be completed, jerseys and warm ups sized, and payment to the Vikings will be completed, either for payment in full or installment plan.

Fall Fees

PAYMENT POLICIES

The registration fee for the 2013/2014 season is \$500. Of that amount, \$150 is a tryout fee, which is non-refundable and \$350 will be applied to your ice bill if your child is chosen to a team. If your child DOES NOT make a team, then \$350 will be refunded to you. If your child is chosen to a team, but you elect for your child to not sign the roster, this amount is forfeited.

On team day a check is required for the \$350 participation fee for all Viking's families who have not completed their 8 hours of volunteer time prior to this day. Once you have completed your 8 hours Participation, any money received up to that date will be refunded within 30 days, as long as you are in good financial standing. For additional information on participation hours please see below.

Your regular season fee will be paid in installments. The installment plan requires 1/5 of the ice fees to be paid on the 1st of the following months: October, November, December, January and February. *For families that need a different payment schedule, you may contact the Treasurer. Each situation will be handled on an individual basis. You will need to meet with a committee on a private basis to seek approval for other arrangements. If ice bills are not paid in full by February 1, 2014, your child will not be able to participate in ANY Vikings activities (practice, skills, games, playoffs, etc) until the balance is paid in full.*

Any payment that is returned for NSF, the family will be charged a \$25.00 banking fee from the Vikings.

Paid in Full Discount:

- ☐ On Team day, families will have the ability to pay their bill in full by **check** only. For all bills paid in full you will receive a discount of 8% off your bill. This discount is applicable for one per family, and the family bill must be paid in full for the discount to apply.

Family Discount:

- ☐ Families with 2 or more players receive a \$125 discount for each player in the family.

Fees are as follows for the 2013-2014 season for NIHL:

Mite	\$2,400	PeeWee	\$3,400	Midget	\$4,000
Squirt	\$3,300	Bantam	\$3,500		

If money is due to the Vikings from the 2012-2013 season, players will not be allowed to register or participate in any Vikings activities until all fees past due is paid in full.

Participation Hours – for Viking’s Families

Viking families are asked to volunteer to help the club. The families have the option of volunteering 8 hours per family, not child. The \$350 participation fee is collected after tryouts on team day. This amount is refundable for all families that complete their volunteer hours, and are in good financial standing. *For team managers, coaches, approved assistant coaches, board members and families that completed their hours prior to team day, you will not be required to pay the fee for their family.*

Four of the 8 hours may be earned by working the clock or as a scorekeeper during the seeding or regular season game of your child. The remaining hours can be completed as a volunteer during many Viking’s events. The Volunteer list is under the DIBS tab, on the Vikings website.

Warm-ups

Each player in the club in need of new warm-ups for the 2013/ 2014 season will have the opportunity to size and order them at Vikings Team Day. This is the only Vikings warm up allowed.

Player Jerseys

All players will receive a home and away jersey, along with hockey socks, as part of their ice fees in the 2013/2014 season. Fittings for jerseys will occur on Vikings Team Day for those that were not able to attend the fittings in July. Vikings Team Day is September 14, 2013. The Vikings will be assigning all the jersey numbers to the players. This assignment is for players new to the Vikings organization.

Helmet Decals

Each player in the club will receive helmet decals (shown below). This is part of your team fee provided to you by the Vikings organization.

VIKINGS

HELMET DECALS

Starting in the 2011-2012 season, the Vikings would like all players to be uniform in appearance. With that in mind, we are asking 2 things:

1. That each player has a black helmet. You are not required to purchase a new helmet, but we do ask that if you are purchasing a new helmet, that it be black in color, and
2. That the attached helmet decals be placed where shown in the drawings. The only other decal that is required on the helmet is the HECC certification decal that is shown below.

There is a product called Goo Gone that you can get at Walmart or other stores that will remove any decals that are on your players helmets.

RIGHT SIDE

VIKINGS

LEFT SIDE



BACK VIEW



HECC DECAL

Fundraising

The Vikings will have the following as fundraising opportunities for members, to help them with their ice fees. **Vikings do NOT allow individual team fundraising.**

- **Corporate Sponsorship** - Banner, logo, or company name listed on the corporate sponsorship page of our official web site, www.vikingsyouthhockey.org, with a direct link to your company's web site. There are four levels for sponsorship:
 - Over \$1,000 MVP Sponsorship
 - \$1,000 Hat Trick sponsorship
 - \$ 500 Playmaker sponsorship
 - \$ 100 It's a Goal sponsorship

The player will receive 50% of the sponsorship they receive towards their fees. If fees are paid in full, the families will receive a refund of 50% of sponsorship funds within 30 days of Vikings receiving their sponsorship. The information for corporate sponsorship will be available on team day.

NIHL Wolves Tickets

Each player with their registration will be purchasing two tickets to the NIHL Chicago Wolves game with date to be determined. The families will have the ability to purchase additional tickets at a discounted price. Information regarding the Chicago Wolves game will be provided during the season.

Team Information

With the team roster being completed, there is certain information that is required by all players within the Vikings.

- Player information – *this is contact information for the manager's use only. This will include credit card information that will be used for booking hotels for tournaments..*
- A signed copy of the USA Hockey Consent to treat form. Each player's parent completes this form.
- A signed copy of the Vikings Zero tolerance policy.
- A copy of the player's birth certificate, for new members to the Viking's organization.
- The player has signed their team's USA Hockey roster.
- If you are a new player to the Vikings, you are required by AHAI to sign a "Two Choice" form, if you are playing for a Tier II club within Illinois.

TIER II CHOICE RULES

SECTION 1. — For the 2013/ 2014 season, a player's choice or choices are defined as any Tier II Association that the player has played with up until the beginning of the 2013/ 2014 fall season. This does not include any spring or summer participation. A player currently playing or moving to the U16/ U18 (*Midget level*) will be allowed an additional choice as long as they meet the requirements outlined in the Two choice By- Law / Rules.

Note: If players have already received a substitute choice before the 2013 /2014 season, they will not be eligible for an additional choice at the U16/ U18 level.

SECTION 2. — *Players playing in the U16 and U18 level will be allowed One (1) additional choice in addition to their current choice Associations. A player does not receive three new choices at the U16/ U18 level. If a player has had a 3rd choice approval from the AHA! Tier II Committee before the player reaches their U16/ U18 level, the player will not receive an additional choice and must choose between the players current 2 choices and the players past association that was substituted.*

Collecting Money

The Vikings organization does not allow a “Slush” fund for any team. If there is any money due to the Vikings, checks are the only form of payment allowed.

Injury Credits

Vikings players who are injured and miss more than four continuous weeks, 28 days, of the current season are entitled to a credit for the amount of time missed. To receive this credit, an injury report will need to be completed along with a note from their doctor; these items are then submitted to the Vikings Board for approval.

The injured player will require a release note from their doctor before they may resume playing.

The injury credit is computed on a weekly basis;

4 weeks off	\$100 credit
5 weeks off	\$125 credit
6 weeks off	\$150 credit

(Increasing by \$25 per week missed)

All credits will be computed on a rounding system.

Leagues

The Vikings are members of the Northern Illinois Hockey League (NIHL). This league follows the rules set forth by USA Hockey and Amateur Hockey Association of Illinois (AHA).

Scheduling

Your team's manager will schedule all games for your regular season, and/or seeding round. The schedules with practices are updated on your team's page on the Viking's website.

Game Limits

AHA has announced a new policy on game limits. The intent of this rule is to increase the practice to game ratio of all AHA affiliate teams and to emulate the introduction of the USA Hockey American Development Model. Accordingly, commencing with the 2009 - 2010 season, AHA has imposed team game limits at all USA Hockey age divisions. Game limits will be as follows.

Mite	15	15 Full Ice Game maximum beginning December 1
Squirt	40	Game maximum with 8 outside tier level
PeeWee	45	Game maximum with 9 outside tier level
Bantam	50	Game maximum with 10 outside tier level
Midget Minor	60	Game maximum with 12 outside tier level
Midget Major	60	Game maximum with 12 outside tier level

Game limits include all league, tournament and practice games; however, tournaments count as only three games regardless of the number you play. All playoff games for League, State and National competition do not count toward the team game limits. The AHA team game limits shall be mandatory for High School, Tier II and Tier III / House / Recreation teams and recommended for Tier I teams.

Tournaments

The Vikings have allocated an amount for tournaments for each team. The coach along with the tournament coordinator will decide the tournaments your team will be attending. The amount the Vikings have allocated for your team is non refundable, and may be only be used towards tournaments. If your tournaments exceed your tournament limit that cost is to be covered by the team if all families agree to attend.

Team Level	Amount allocated for season
Mite	\$1,000
Squirt	\$2,500
PeeWee	\$3,500
Bantam	\$4,000
Midgets	\$5,000

Most tournaments require that you stay in a tournament-affiliated hotel. Your manager will be responsible for making the reservations for your team. Your team manager, coach or the Viking's tournament coordinator, will handle all contact with the tournament director.

Please note: The Vikings pay for any team entering AHAI's Blackhawk Cup, this is not considered part of your team's tournament budget.

Off Ice Facility

The Vikings have an off ice facility at 10466 West 163rd Street in Orland Park, which is available to all teams for off ice workouts in addition to a video room for game/ video review. This facility will be used with their team in coordination with the hockey director. The schedule will be on your Viking's team calendar with a minimum of one session per week.

Open Board Meetings

Vikings hold open board meetings on a monthly basis, as stated by their bylaws. The board meeting are held the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm unless otherwise stated on the website. Please check the website to confirm current open meetings and see the current monthly agenda. All members are welcome to the open board meetings.

Player Patches

Vikings players can earn patches from USA Hockey based on game performance. A player can receive a patch for achieving a shut out, a hat trick or playmaker (3 assists in one game). Each player can only earn one of each of these patches per season. The manager of your team will complete this request form to USA Hockey.

Academic Achievement

Vikings players are recognized by the Vikings organization for academic achievement. If the player receives all A's and B's on a report card, they will be recognized by the Vikings. In previous years, this has been on the website, a t-shirt and a player patch. NIHL has a "Making the Grade" program, this is for all players who receive straight A's on their report cards.

This is completed twice during the season. The deadline for each will be provided to you, as the season progresses. Each team's manager will collect the report cards for each player.

Team Photos

The Vikings organization purchases photo packages for each player within the Vikings. The pictures are normally taken by the end of October.

Website

On the Vikings website, your team manager will have the ability to maintain your team's home page. This can include articles, photos, team events, etc. If you would like to add additional information on your team's site, you will need to coordinate with the team's manager.

Off-Ice Officials

It is important to remember throughout the season that you, along with the coaching staff, timekeepers and scorekeepers are considered off-ice officials. Your behavior and conduct are reflective of your team and this organization.

NIHL rules regarding off-ice officials:

1. The managers and coaches in charge of a team for a NIHL game (including tournament games) shall be regarded as responsible for their team's player, goalkeeper and coach eligibility, and for the conduct of their team officials, players and parents during that game and while at the place where the game is being played.
2. Each manager, head coach and assistant coaches are obligated when requested, to do whatever possible to assist game officials and others involved in controlling the spectators at that game who are traveling along with the team, or when playing at their home rink. Suspension for the coach or manager or the entire team, or an assigned loss of the game could result from lack of such action in attempting to control any person or group in the arena.

Exhibition Games

The Vikings allow teams to play exhibition games. The games will be available for scheduling based on open practice slots available from the ice scheduler. These games are handled between the team manager and ice scheduler only.

The cost for the referees of these games are payable by the individual team and will not be reimbursed by the Vikings.

Viking Board Positions

Every February the Vikings will accept letters of intent to be a member of the Vikings Board of Directors. The letters are posted on the website and the members of the Viking's organization will vote for members of the board. A board member serves a two-year term.



Family / Player Manual 2013/2014 Season

Player Name:

Date of Birth:

Parent Signature:

This is to confirm the family has received and agreed to follow the policies and procedures set forth in this manual.