

## Pond Elite Development Team Description

Our teams are designed to help players build hockey skills through extra ice time and coaching. While team strategy is important, the focal point of this program team is to build skilled hockey players who will be able to compete at a high level when they reach the 14u and 16u age groups. We will be using USA hockey's ADM and long term athlete development model as a guideline to accomplish this. The Pond Elite Development Teams will be practicing one day a week for roughly 80 minutes. Their practices will be split up into segments of specific hockey skill development and team strategy. The Pond Development players will be required to play in their local house league (at a level the director and coaches feel is appropriate for each individual player's development) and are encouraged to participate in other Pond programs (will receive discount). These programs are:

Hockey Academy: 1-1.5 hours on-ice, coached practice for all levels. In short, this is an ongoing skill building camp run by the Pond coaching staff. Hundreds of repetitions focused on mastery of skating, stick handling, passing and shooting...

4 on 4 League: Fast paced, full-ice game between players of all levels. Players are encouraged to take risks, try new skills and battle with other local players. Players can choose to play up in age division if they want to test their abilities against stronger, faster hockey players. This is a "favorite" among our young players!

Girl Power: Exactly the same as Hockey Academy, but no boys allowed!

Pond Time: Open "Stick and Puck" sessions. Players will have the opportunity to work on coach recommended skills. They can also meet their friends and teammates to play small area games on the ice.

The Pond Elite Development team practices will be scheduled so that players can participate in these other programs. Additionally, Development team coaches will typically be on site during other programming (most will be coaching Hockey Academy) and will be able to offer additional feedback to players. **This is the program for you if you want up to 5 hours of coaching a week. This is the program for you if you want to be on the ice between 6-10 hours a week (up to 6 hours possible every weekend) in a wide variety of programming, at a really fun local hockey training facility.** We believe that time on task, deep practice, and master coaching, mixed with a large dose of fun unstructured play, builds strong, skillful and passionate hockey players.

## Roles and Responsibilities

**Coaches:** The coaches' primary responsibility is developing these young players. The coaches will be in charge of ALL on ice training in addition to off-ice hockey related skills (synthetic and skate mill). Head coaches will determine playing time, positioning and appropriate leveling. Coaches will evaluate sportsmanship, behavior and leadership skills as it pertains to being a part of a team. Playing decisions can be based on these character traits.

**Team Manager:** The team manager will serve as the communication liaison between the coaches and the parents. The manager will update parents on practice schedules, events and any other important information needed throughout the year. The team manager will complete all paperwork needed to enter the tournaments. The team manager will NOT be in charge of any items that fall under the coaches' umbrella (ie levels in tournaments, tournament selections, playing time, player dismissal).

**Tournament Manager:** The tournament manager will help organize the hotel reservations and any team outings during the tournaments.

**Fundraising Manager:** The Fundraising manager will help present fundraising tools for individual players to raise funds towards their hockey season.

## Tournaments

At this point our tentative tournament schedule includes the Dallas Stars Tournament Series, which is held on Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and MLK weekend. We are also going to be participating in a wild card tournament in Dallas or out of state (potentially The One Hockey Tournament, Las Vegas Annual Presidents Day Tournament, or something else suitable). While we do our best to determine tournaments pre season, we cannot 100% guarantee these will be the specific tournaments we attend. Non parent coaches will be fully reimbursed for their travel and hotel expenses.