

GLACIER HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

2022-23 HOCKEY PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Our Mission

Glacier Hockey Association is a non-profit community youth hockey organization that provides an instructional hockey experience for youth ages 4-18 in a safe and supportive environment. Glacier Hockey Association strives to promote an enriching environment in a community setting while providing foundational skills, in accordance with USA Hockey's American Development Model program to foster youth development and encouraging a lifelong love of hockey and team sports. GHA endeavors to impart the hockey values of character, hard work, teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect that lead to player success both on and off the ice.

Welcome to USA Hockey

GHA is a proud member of USA Hockey (www.usahockey.com) and a local affiliate of the Montana Amateur Hockey Association (www.mthockey.com). Founded in 1937, USA Hockey provides the foundation for ice hockey in the United States and today includes more than one million players, coaches, officials and volunteers. The goal is to help every player reach their full potential through fun, safe, and engaging programs that maximize skill development, promoting a life-long love of the sport. USA Hockey provides the foundation for ice hockey in America with the primary emphasis on support and development of grassroots hockey programs like GHA. USA Hockey is the official representative to the U.S. Olympic Committee and the International Ice Hockey Federation.

Player Development is our Focus

GHA follows USA Hockey's American Development Model (ADM), a nationally renowned model for successfully developing American hockey players to ensure every kid will have a great chance to succeed. Beginning with a player's first steps onto the ice and carrying them through age 18 and beyond, USA Hockey's ADM provides players and parents with a blueprint to have the best possible youth hockey experience possible. ADM provides age-specific, age-appropriate skill development; proper practice-to-game ratios that encourages skill development; high performance practice and game programming; high-quality training programs for coaches; and a philosophy that encourages player development and a life-time love of the game. By implementing USA Hockey's ADM, GHA delivers more efficient and effective skill development, produces more skilled players, enhances player retention, and allows kids to reach their full hockey potential.

What is the ADM?

USA Hockey's American Development Model (ADM) is an athlete-centered, coach-enhanced, administrator-supported framework that aims to help all individuals realize their athletic potential and utilize sport as a path toward an active and healthy lifestyle. This can be accomplished by following the 10 Guiding Principles and the age group recommendations that focus on developing all aspects of hockey performance in a developmentally appropriate manner, based on research and best practices in youth sports, human development, coaching, and the sports sciences.

Benefits of GHA

- USA Hockey Certified coaches, volunteers, and officials.
- USA Hockey membership
- Game options in the Flathead Valley, throughout Montana, and British Columbia (Canada)
- Training sessions throughout the season
- Power skating instruction
- Practice ice for 6 months
- 20-45+ games per season
- All League fees (TSL and EKL fees)

- Registration fees for both local tournaments (GHA Battle of the Border & FVHA Winter Classic)
- Tiering and Banner/State Tournament fees
- USA Hockey Certified Refereed games

Age Classifications

BIRTH YEAR	PROGRAM
2016 and younger	Learn to Play Hockey (L2PH)
2014/2015	6/8 or Under (Mite/Novice)
2012/2013	10 or Under (Squirt/Atom)
2010/2011	12 or Under (Peewee)
2010/2011	12U Girls
2008/2009	14 or Under (Bantam)
2008/2009	14U Girls
2003/2007	High School (Junior Varsity & Varsity)
2003/2007	19U Girls

*No USAH registration fee 2016 and younger (6 and Under)

Youth Programming

Learn to Play - Learn to play (ages 4 and older) teaches kids basic skating and hockey skills in a fun, safe environment. Players are introduced to the fundamentals of skating before progressing to stick handling, passing, and shooting. Kids learn these skills through fun skating drills and games taught by our certified USA Hockey coaches. Practices are 45 minutes two per week, with two ten week sessions (October-mid December/January-mid March) sessions offered per hockey season.

Session #1 L2PH October 3rd - December 8th (2022)

Session #2 L2PH January 2nd - March 9th (2023)

\$200/session

House League (YETI) - GHA is proud to partner with Flathead Valley Hockey Association (FVHA) to provide local hockey opportunities through our [Yeti House League](#) program. Yeti League is currently offered at the 6U/8U/10U age levels. Players participate in all team practices and play games locally in Kalispell and Whitefish (see below). Games will be played at Woodland Ice Rink in Kalispell on Friday nights, or will be played as a jamboree format across several weekends throughout the playing season. This season there will be only one session with two levels for YETI (season long).

Travel teams - GHA offers travel team options for 8U and older players interested in higher level competition in Montana and British Columbia, Canada. Our primary league is the East Kootenay League (EKL) in British Columbia, Canada, with games played in towns throughout eastern British Columbia. Our secondary league is the Montana Amateur Hockey Association's Treasure State League (TSL) with games played throughout Montana. Together, these competitive leagues offer GHA players unparalleled exposure and experience playing hockey at national and international levels. League play for travel teams is included in registration costs for all programming for the exception of L2PH, 6U/8U, and the YETI only players. 6U/8U and YETI only players are encouraged to participate in travel tournament play as the interest exists.

2022-2023 Practice and Game Schedules

Our practice and game schedule follows USA Hockey's nationwide blueprint, with the hockey season beginning in October (2022) and ending in March the following year (2023). No league games or practices are scheduled on US Federal holidays.

Practices

Stumptown Ice Den (Whitefish)

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
6:00-7:00AM			HS Varsity		
5:00-5:45PM		L2PH		L2PH	
5:45-6:40PM		10U GHA		6U/8U Mites	
6:00-6:55PM	6U/8U Mites	*zam*	10U GHA	*zam*	

6:55-7:50PM	HS Junior Varsity	14U A/B	12U GHA	12U GHA	
7:55-9:00PM	*zam*		*zam*	*zam*	
8:05-9:00PM	HS Varsity	14U/19U Girls	14U A	HS Varsity	

Woodland Ice Rink (Kalispell)

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5:30-6:30PM					YETI Level 1 Game
6:15-7:15PM		12U EKL Fusion team		14U A/B	
6:45-7:45PM		Goalies Session	14U B		YETI Level 2 Game
7:30-8:30PM				14U Girls	
8:00-9:00PM	14U/19U Girls	HS Junior Varsity	HS Junior Varsity	19U Girls	

Games

Home Games will be scheduled between Stumptown Ice Den and the possibility of Woodland Ice Rink between Friday evenings and mid day Sundays throughout the season. All prices listed below take into account the total practice schedule in building the cost (20 weeks of practice). GHA covers out of town tournament registration fees per option listed.

- 6U/8U Mites (32 players) -
 - Option #1: \$600
 - Local tournament @ Stumptown Ice Den plus YETI League games (minimum of 14 games, including Yeti League).
 - Option #2: \$800
 - committing to 2-3 out of town tournaments (additional 8-12 games)
 - Option #3: \$1,050
 - committing to 6 out of town tournaments (additional 24 games)

- 10U/Squirts (26 players) -
 - Option #1: \$600
 - Local tournament @ Stumptown Ice Den plus YETI League games (minimum of 14 games, including Yeti League).
 - Option #2: \$900
 - Home Association TSL play plus 3 out of town tournaments (additional 12 games).
 - Option #3: \$1,100
 - Home Association TSL play plus League Play in East Kootenay League (EKL)
Additional 16 +/- games.

- 12U/Peewees (26 players) -

No Level 3 YETI. Those interested in playing YETI may register as a Level 2 player. 12U/Peewees will play with their home organization in the MAHA Treasure State League (TSL). If needed, a tryout to determine EKL team will take place in October.

- Option #1: \$1,000
 - Home Association TSL play (GHA).
 - Option #2: \$1,150
 - Home Association TSL play plus 3 out of town tournaments (additional 12 games).
 - Option #3: \$1,250
 - Home Association TSL play plus League Play in East Kootenay League (EKL)
Additional 16 +/- games.
- 14U/Bantams (30 players) -

14U/Bantams will register with their home organization. 14U/Bantams will consist of all Flathead Valley players (GHA & FVHA). Two Levels of teams: A/B Levels of play. Tryouts/Evaluations to be held in October.

 - Option #1: \$1,350
 - Treasure State League (TSL) plus 3 out of town tournaments (approximately 32 games)
 - Option #2: \$1,350
 - East Kootenay League (EKL) plus 3 out of town tournaments (approximately 32 games).
 - Option #3: \$1,450
 - League Play in East Kootenay League (EKL) and Treasure State League (Montana's TSL).
 - Additional 4 +/- games.
 - High School (55 players) -
 - Varsity - \$1,550
 - League Play in Treasure State League (Montana's TSL) plus 4 out of town tournaments.
 - Approximately 40 games.
 - Exclusive rights to the warming hut as their dressing room.
 - Junior Varsity - \$1,400

- **League Play in Treasure State League (Montana's TSL) plus 2 out of town tournaments.**
- **Approximately 32 games.**