



# MinorHawks Developmental Hockey League

Players born from 1/1/2009 to 12/31/2012 are invited to join the best developmental hockey league in the country. We will be following the USA Hockey Athletic Development Model to provide the best possible experience for your up and coming hockey player. At ages 6-8 years old, our objective for physical development is to refine fundamental movement skills and begin to acquire basic sports skills. This is the time when the foundation is laid for future acquisition of more advanced skills. As far as psychological development goes, we will be focusing on providing FUN, motivating practices and games, developing reasoning skills through unstructured competition, building confidence by creating competitive groups which will allow for a high rate of success and promoting individual and group participation as well as introducing the participants to simple rules and sports ethics (fair play).

## **Registration Information**

Winter Season: January 6 - March 31

*Registration is on a first come, first serve basis, as space is limited. All participants must register at least one week prior to the start of the session. All players are required to attend the evaluation skate on Saturday, January 6th at 8:00 am at the Edge on Jefferson West. Please check out the Blues website at [www.chicagoblueshockey.org](http://www.chicagoblueshockey.org) for more information.*

## **Format**

Practices will be split into 4 groups based on ability. We recognize that each player is unique and develops at a different rate. By creating parity within each group we feel that we can better serve the needs of each player on a more individualized basis. Players will have more fun by practicing at their own level and coaches will be able to create a more competitive atmosphere with the games and competitions in practice. Games will consist of half ice games with the new hard board system splitting the ice in two. Competitive matching will be the rule to create parity amongst teams. By splitting the ice into two we will be creating more opportunity for each young player to get involved in the game and thus use their skating, puck-handling, agility, and shooting on a more frequent basis. Game and practice times are typically Saturdays at 10:20 am at the Edge on Jefferson West and Sundays at 9:10 am at the Edge on Jefferson East. For maximum development, we recommend registering for Wednesday pre - hockey to add more repetitions in skills training.

## **Fees**

The cost to join the league is \$300.00. Please register for this program on the Chicago Blues website at [www.chicagoblueshockey.org](http://www.chicagoblueshockey.org). No walk-in registration will be permitted. The Chicago Blues is a non profit youth hockey organization.

## **Facility**

The Edge Ice Arena is owned and operated by the Village of Bensenville. We pride ourselves on providing a clean, safe and well maintained family friendly facility. The Edge is located at 735 East Jefferson Street in Bensenville, IL 60106.

## **Coaches Information**

This program will be run by hockey director Todd Finner. Todd has extensive experience in coaching youth hockey. All practices will be conducted under the direction of Todd Finner. If you are interested in becoming a youth hockey coach please indicate so while registering your child for the league on the Chicago Blues website. All coaches will be required to attend the USA Hockey Coaching Education Program workshop, complete the USA Hockey 8 & under online coaching module as well as be screened and fingerprinted.