

INTRODUCTION

BOYS

Minnesota Player Identification Opportunities Expanded

There are many talented hockey players in Minnesota. Minnesota Hockey (MH), in an effort to meet the needs of these players offers its USA Hockey (USAH) Advanced 15, 16, and 17 programs which includes more player participation and opportunities.

In Minnesota Only: these "Select" programs have been renamed "Advanced National" 15, 16, 17. In all the other areas of the USA, including USA Hockey, the "Select" name is retained for USAH National Festivals.

The MH/USA Hockey Advanced (Select) 15, 16, and 17 programs are designed to find the best players in each age group in Minnesota. The goal of each class is to represent Minnesota Hockey at a national festival/camp sponsored by USA Hockey involving the best players from each of the USAH districts. The festival/camp is used by USAH to identify the top performers in each age group for possible opportunities to represent the U.S.A. at advanced levels of national and international hockey competition.

A Word about Fees

The Advanced 15, 16, and 17 programs cost a considerable amount of money to operate. That money comes from Minnesota Hockey. We are a non-profit organization that depends on a \$7 registration fee from its membership to cover most expenses. Obviously, we would enjoy paying for all of the expense involved for our Advanced (Select) programs and are working on developing a marketing plan that will supplement our income sources. Until that plan starts to create additional revenue, a charge needs to be assessed to the Advanced Program participants. The fees for participation have been set on a cost basis with the total cost being divided by the total number of participants. Unlike many similar programs in the private sector there is no profit margin built into the fees. Hopefully in future years we will be able to reduce participant fees or eliminate them.

Participation Fees

District/Section tryouts (Trials) Adv. 15 \$70 per player

Section tryouts (Trials) Adv. 16 & 17 \$70 per player

District/Section Festival team members: 16 & 17 \$ 125 per player

Final 51 Evaluations-Adv. 16 & 17 \$ 100 per player

Expansion of Player Opportunities

The mission of the Minnesota Hockey Player Development Program is to provide opportunities to all players based on their particular level of skill and desire. From grass root's house league programs to the old timers' leagues we have an obligation to our members to provide them with enjoyable, rewarding, and challenging experiences in hockey. We continually search for ways to achieve our mission.

The expanded Advanced Program is essentially for the better players in their age category. One might argue that we are spending too much time and money on the select few at the expense of the majority. That may be true, but it is also true that the better players were once a part of the majority too. Hockey is a competitive sport and those that do become better are products of hard work, dedication, and commitment to being the best that they can be. Can we in good conscience ignore their achievements and disregard their needs? That is not how our society operates. Achievement is rewarded and admired in our culture.

The better players needs are more sophisticated than the majority and consequently usually cost more to satisfy. In Minnesota, we are blessed with many good players at all levels. In an effort to provide more of these players with an opportunity to excel, we have expanded programs. The Advanced 15 program will have a minimum of 40 candidates trying out for one of 12 District teams providing 480 opportunities. The Advanced 16 program provides player opportunities for 320

candidates (40 candidates in 8 Sections). The Advanced 17 program will do the same as the Advanced 16's (40 candidates in each of the 8 Sections). The total player opportunity for all three select programs totals 1,120 candidates. How can anyone argue with that?

We encourage your comments and ideas. Our only purpose is to do what is in the best interests of the participants. Our goal is to provide more opportunities for more players. To that end, we are committed and totally dedicated.

Barry Ford, V. P. Hockey Operations, Minnesota Hockey

2008 Minnesota Advanced Programs

Minnesota Advanced 15 (born in 1993)

Phase 1 (March 17 – March 31, 2008) District Trials/Team Selection (\$70 per candidate)

Each MH District (12) will invite a minimum of 40 candidates to participate in the trials to determine the 20 players to be selected to represent each district at the Advanced 15 Spring Festival. Each candidate will receive 4 hours of ice time and a participant jersey. Total number of players invited 480.

Players unregistered with MH/USA Hockey will be required to pay an additional one time \$40 registration fee and complete a USA Hockey Individual Member Registration (IMR) form for insurance purposes.

Phase 2 (March 19 – April 2, 2008) District Team Selection/Preparation

20 players selected from trials to district team

Each team is allowed two hours of ice time for pre- event practice/preparation.

Phase 3 (completed by April 13, 2008) Seeding Round

Four divisions of three teams each play a round robin preliminary two game schedule. The top two finishers in each division are seeded into an eight-team event with each team playing three games.

The third place finishers are placed in a four- team round robin event also playing three games each.

Phase 4 (April 19 - 20, 2008) Minnesota Hockey Spring Festival: New Hope Arenas (Cost per player \$125, includes Phases 2, 3, & 4)

One 8 -team event (1st & 2nd from each preliminary division). Each team plays three games.
One 4- team event (3rd place team from each preliminary division). Each team plays three games.

Player Evaluation: A team of knowledgeable coaches and scouts will evaluate all participants, consult with team coaches and select the top 102 players for participation in the Minnesota Hockey Summer Advanced 15 Festival. Alternates will also be chosen and placed if there are participant turndowns.

Phase 5 (June 14-19, 2008) Minnesota Hockey Summer Festival, St. Cloud State (Cost per player \$525)

Expense of this festival is shared equally by the participants and is based on actual cost less grants received from Minnesota Hockey (MH) and USA Hockey.

102 selected players participate in a weeklong training camp at St. Cloud State University and the National Hockey Center. Housing and meals are provided. Six teams play a round robin schedule of games, attend dry land training sessions, weight training sessions and classroom sessions daily. The staff at the Summer Festival includes prominent college, high school, and youth coaches teamed with current and former college and professional hockey players to serve as coaches, role models, and counselors for each team. College Division 1 and 3 coaches and a representative from the Minnesota Wild address the players and staff following dinner each night.

Player Evaluation: All staff members evaluate each player and develop a watch list on the second day of the festival. Players are continually evaluated and added to the watch list. Nightly meetings are held to discuss player performances. Each team staff plus the Festival coaching staff then ranks their top 20 players. Numerical values are attached to each rank position. Final player rankings are then calculated according to their total numerical values from all evaluators. The twenty players with the highest numbers for each position are selected to represent Minnesota Hockey at the USA Hockey National Select 15 Development Camp.

Phase 6 (August 2-8, 2008) USA Hockey National Select (Advanced) 15 Development Camp, St. Cloud, MN (Cost per player \$325. plus USA Hockey administrative fee \$95)

USA Hockey and MN Hockey pay some of the Minnesota player expense. The best players in the United States from all USA Hockey Districts team up with the best coaches in the USA to participate in a player development camp. All players are evaluated for possible future participation in National USA Hockey programs.

MN Advanced 15 Personnel (Contact for more information)

Minnesota Hockey Advanced 15 Festival Staff

Adv. 15 Director, John Perry, 763.559.4646; F: 763.519.1456

or Asst. Director, Scott Dornfeld, 763.546.2212

Coaches: Don Krause, Paul Moen, Steve Houge, Others TBA

Contact District Advanced 15 General Managers

District TC Justin Simonson 612.802.4836

District 2 John Petersen 651.338.8315

District 3 Diane Margenau 763-425-6895

District 4 Tom Christianson 507.345.3579

District 5 Paul Willett 763-972-5888

District 6 Chris Evans 952.937.5422

District 8 Rich Rakness 651-455-1725

District 10 Craig Turner 763.783.9451

District 11 Christian Koelling 218.525.8421

District IR Ron Holum 218-326-3153

District 15 Dick Gustafson 320-763-6714

District 16 Jude Boulianne 218.386.3862

All candidates in all age classes are required to complete a USAH registration form (if not previously registered for the current season) and pay all appropriate fees to the team manager prior to any on-ice participation!

INTRODUCTION

GIRLS

Minnesota Player Identification Opportunities Expanded

There are many talented hockey players in Minnesota. Minnesota Hockey (MH), in an effort to meet the needs of these players offers its USA Hockey (USAH) Advanced 15, 16, and 17 programs which includes more player participation and opportunities.

In Minnesota Only: these "Select" programs have been renamed "Advanced National" 15, 16, 17. In all the other areas of the USA, including USA Hockey, the "Select" name is retained for USAH National Festivals.

The MH/USA Hockey Advanced (Select) 15, 16, and 17 programs are designed to find the best players in each age group in Minnesota. The goal of each class is to represent Minnesota Hockey at a national festival/camp sponsored by USA Hockey involving the best players from each of the USAH districts. The festival/camp is used by USAH to identify the top performers in each age group for possible opportunities to represent the U.S.A. at advanced levels of national and international hockey competition.

A Word about Fees

The Advanced 15, 16, and 17 programs cost a considerable amount of money to operate. That money comes from Minnesota Hockey. We are a non-profit organization that depends on a \$710 registration fee from its membership to cover most expenses. Obviously, we would enjoy paying for all of the expense involved for our Advanced (Select) programs and are working on developing a marketing plan that will supplement our income sources. Until that plan starts to create additional revenue, a charge needs to be assessed to the Advanced Program participants. The fees for participation have been set on a cost basis with the total cost being divided by the total number of participants. Unlike many similar programs in the private sector there is no profit margin built into the fees. Hopefully in future years we will be able to reduce participant fees or eliminate them.

Participation Fees

District/Section tryouts (Trials) Adv. 15 \$70 per player

Section tryouts (Trials) Adv. 16 & 17 \$70 per player

District/Section Festival team members: 16 & 17 \$ 125 per player

"Final 51" Evaluations-Adv. 16 & 17 \$ 125 per player

Expansion of Player Opportunities

The mission of the Minnesota Hockey Player Development Program is to provide opportunities to all players based on their particular level of skill and desire. From grass root's house league programs to the old timers' leagues we have an obligation to our members to provide them with enjoyable, rewarding, and challenging experiences in hockey. We continually search for ways to achieve our mission.

The expanded Advanced Program is essentially for the better players in their age category. One might argue that we are spending too much time and money on the select few at the expense of the majority. That may be true, but it is also true that the better players were once a part of the majority too. Hockey is a competitive sport and those that do become better are products of hard work, dedication, and commitment to being the best that they can be. Can we in good conscience ignore their achievements and disregard their needs? That is not how our society operates. Achievement is rewarded and admired in our culture.

The better player's needs are more sophisticated than the majority and consequently usually cost more to satisfy. In Minnesota, we are blessed with many good players at all levels. In an effort to provide more of these players with an opportunity to excel, we have expanded programs. The Advanced 15 program will have a minimum of 40 candidates trying out for one of 12 District teams

providing 480 opportunities. The Advanced 16 program provides player opportunities for 320 candidates (40 candidates in 8 Sections). The Advanced 17 program will do the same as the Advanced 16's (40 candidates in each of the 8 Sections). The total player opportunity for all three select programs totals 1,120 candidates. How can anyone argue with that?

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Barry Ford, V. P. Hockey Operations, Minnesota Hockey

2008 Minnesota Advanced Programs

Minnesota Advanced 15 (born in 1993)

Phase 1 March 17 – March 31, 2008 District Trials/Team Selection (\$70 per player)

Each MH District (12) will invite a minimum of 40 candidates to participate in the trials to determine the 20 players to be selected to represent each district at the Advanced 15 Spring Festival. Each candidate will receive 4 hours of ice time and a participant jersey. Total number of players invited 480.

Players unregistered with MH/USA Hockey will be required to pay an additional one time \$40 registration fee and complete the [USA Hockey On-line](#) form for insurance purposes.

Phase 2 (March 17 – March 31, 2008) District Team Selection/Preparation

20 players selected from trials to district team

Each team is allowed two hours of ice time for pre-event practice/preparation.

Phase 3 (completed by April 4, 2008) Seeding Round

Four divisions of three teams each play a round robin preliminary two game schedule. The top two finishers in each division are seeded into an eight-team event with each team playing three games.

The third place finishers are placed in a four-team round robin event also playing three games each.

Phase 4 (April 12-13, 2008) Minnesota Hockey Spring Festival: SchwanSuper Rink (Cost per player \$125, includes Phases 2, 3, & 4)

One 8-team event (1st & 2nd from each preliminary division). Each team plays three games.

One 4-team event (3rd place team from each preliminary division). Each team plays three games.

Player Evaluation: A team of knowledgeable coaches and scouts will evaluate all participants, consult with team coaches and select the top 102 players for participation in the Minnesota Hockey Summer Advanced 15 Festival. Alternates will also be chosen and placed if there are participant turndowns.

Phase 5 (June 14-19, 2008) Minnesota Hockey Summer Festival, Mankato (Cost per player \$525)

Expense of this festival is shared equally by the participants and is based on actual cost less grants received from Minnesota Hockey (MH) and USA Hockey.

102 selected players participate in a weeklong training camp at Minnesota State University Mankato and All Seasons Arena. Housing and meals are provided. Six teams play a round robin schedule of games, attend dry land training sessions, and classroom sessions daily. The staff at the Summer Festival will be headed by Jeff Vizenor, Head Coach of the Minnesota State University Mankato

Girls Hockey and will include prominent college and high school coaches teamed with current and former college hockey players to serve as coaches, role models, and counselors for each team.

Player Evaluation: All staff members evaluate each player and develop a watch list on the second day of the festival. Players are continually evaluated and added to the watch list. Nightly meetings are held to discuss player performances. Each team staff plus the Festival coaching staff then ranks their top 20 players. Numerical values are attached to each rank position. Final player rankings are then calculated according to their total numerical values from all evaluators. The twenty players with the highest numbers for each position are selected to represent Minnesota Hockey at the USA Hockey National Select 15 Development Camp.

**Phase 6 (July 26 – August 1, 2008)
USA Hockey National Girls Select (Advanced) 15 Development Camp,
ESL Sports Centre – Rochester, New York
USA Hockey administrative fee \$95 Players are responsible for their own travel expenses.**

USA Hockey and MN Hockey pay some of the Minnesota player expense. The best players in the United States from all USA Hockey Districts team up with the best coaches in the USA to participate in a player development camp. All players are evaluated for possible future participation in National USA Hockey programs.

MN Advanced 15 Personnel (Contact for more information)

Minnesota Hockey Advanced 15 Festival Staff

Adv. 15 Director, Kevin Dickie – (507) 835-4151 Home / (507) 838-6305 Cell

Or Asst. Director, Tim Timm

Coaches: Paul Ostoff – Jeff Vizenor - Others TBA

Contact District Advanced 15 General Managers

District TC	Andrea Backes	(651) 690-1043
District 2	Mike Mata	(651) 983-8027
District 3	Kathy Fallen	(763) 551-1895
District 4	Ruthann Kragh	(507) 304-1093
District 5	Doug Foster	(763) 497-8071
District 6	Kyle Crowe	(952) 942-7990
District 8	Tito Elumba	(651) 336-8910
District 10	Roger Sundeen	(763) 427-2021
District 11	Pete Hill	(218) 879-1496
Dist 12 IR	Jerry Havel	(218)327-3274
District 15	Dave Stigen	(218) 739-9524
District 16	Mark Elliott	(218) 759-2229

All candidates in all age classes are required to complete a USAH registration form (if not previously registered for the current season) and pay all appropriate fees to the team manager prior to any on-ice participation!