



Presented by  
**Hinckley**  
Springs

## AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION ILLINOIS, INC.

*"Dedicated to the development of today's youth  
through Athletic and Academic excellence"*

*Check Scores Daily on the Web at: [www.ahai.org](http://www.ahai.org)*



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November 1, 2009

Dear Team Manager,

The AHAI Girls Committee would like to extend an invitation to your team to participate in the 2010 Girls AHAI/Blackhawk Cup State Tournament. We have been working to improve the tournament format in order to get all the girls' teams in Illinois to participate. The event will consist of a round-robin playoff week of February 18-21, 2010 at the Crystal Ice House in Crystal Lake, Illinois. The Championship Series takes place at the AHAI Ice Center in Bensenville, February 25 —28, 2009 (*Girls High School teams will play single-elimination games hosted by the higher ranked teams, leading up to the State Championship at the United Center tentatively scheduled for Friday, March 26*).

The top two teams determined by the round-robin format will play for the State Championship. In addition, the Girls Blackhawk Cup Committee has decided to offer consolation games for those age divisions that have at least four participants. Age divisions for the 2010 Blackhawk Cup tournament will include 10 and Under "A", 12 and Under "A", 12 and Under "AA", 14 and Under "A", 14 and Under "AA", 16 and Under "AA" and 19 and Under "AA". As the number of teams grows in Illinois, it is the committee's desire to eventually offer an "AA" and "A" pool at all levels.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The Champions of the 12U "A" and "AA", 14U "A" and "AA", 16U "AA" and 19U "AA" divisions will advance to the Central District Championships March 19-21, 2010. All teams in these age divisions are eligible to enter the "AA" pool for the purpose of advancing to Districts/Nationals. Early tryout organizations (*Tier I*) must enter their teams in the "AA" divisions, while later tryout teams will be placed in either the "AA" or "A" pool based on application and/or rankings. Any later tryout organization may elect to "play up" at "AA", provided there is such a division. (*Note: at 10U there is only an "A" division, as this age group is not eligible for play beyond the state tournament.*)

**The fee to enter the 2010 Girls Blackhawk Cup State Tournament is \$795 for 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U, and 19U teams.**

**Formats:** All Youth Girls' Divisions at 10U "A", 12U "A", 12U "AA", 14U "A", 14U "AA", and 19U "AA" teams will play a minimum of three games. Schedules will be posted by February 1, 2009. 16U "AA" teams may play less than three games due to a low number of registered teams in this age group.

### **Registration Procedures for all girls' teams:**

If your team chooses to participate in the 2010 AHAI Girls Blackhawk Cup State Tournament, you must do the following:

Each team must register electronically online. Contact your organization Registrar if you have not already received your username and password to use [www.ahai2.org/organizations](http://www.ahai2.org/organizations).

1. Each team must fully complete the Registration Form electronically (*one for each team choosing to participate*) to register their team for the 2010 Girls Blackhawk Cup State Tournament *anytime between 12:00 a.m., Sunday, November 1, 2009 and 11:59 pm, Sunday, November 15, 2009.* The contact person for your team should be the one who can schedule the Playdown Games prior to the final schedule. (*This does not necessarily have to be the person who does the actual registration and*



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*rankings). You must place all coaches' names on the Ranking Form and designate the Head Coach. This should be consistent with your AHAI Roster. \*Note: High school teams will register between December 1- December 29, 2009.*

2. Each Team must complete the Ranking Form electronically ranking teams in your Division. **RANKINGS WILL NOT BE DUE UNTIL 1/10/09.** Please rate all the teams you have played in your age level. For those who are in a league where teams play "down", please also rate those teams playing "down" to the best of your knowledge. **Do Not Rate Your Own Team.** Please give some thought to your ratings. The best hockey team you have played should be placed in the #1 spot, etc. Only teams listed as your opponents in our online database will be presented for ranking. If you do not see your opponents listed it is because your team manager or officiating scheduler or your opponent's team manager or officiating scheduler did not enter the correct team names when posting the games. Contact your officiating scheduler to make corrections before you complete your rankings. You will need to rank the team according to how you think they rate in the division they will be competing in. Again, take a minute to make sure you are correctly ranking the team. Please also refer to your teams' league, practice and tournament games you have played this season. Please take the time to sort through your team's schedule and scoresheets.
3. Each Team must complete the Roster Form electronically. **ROSTERS WILL BE DUE ON 1/10/10, AS TEAMS MAY ADD PLAYERS UNTIL 12/31/09.**
4. All fees must be paid electronically during the electronic registration process. Special care should be taken to complete all information requested.
5. The 2010 Girls Blackhawk Cup Committee must approve the team entry.
6. All coaches and non-uniformed personnel participating in the 2010 AHAI Girls Blackhawk Cup State Tournament must have completed the appropriate level of the AHAI Coaching Education Program. Please refer to page 82, Article XV, Coaches, in the 2008-09 AHAI Official Guide — By-Laws, Rules & Regulations. **If someone does not have the appropriate Coaches' Card, that person will not be allowed on the bench for that particular game.** **The coaching card rule will be strictly enforced, so all coaches MUST carry their card for the entire tournament.** In addition, injured players must wear their jersey and helmet at all times if they are going to be on the bench. **All coaches and managers must have completed the AHAI Screening Requirements to be eligible to participate in the 2010 AHAI Girls Blackhawk Cup State Tournament.**



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7. All dual-rostered players (*i.e. rostered on a girls' team and a youth team*) must have declared which team she will play on for purposes of advancing to District and National tournaments (*12U and older*). This declaration must be made, in writing, to Tom Hansen, Central District Registrar, 413 S. Midvale Boulevard, Madison, WI 53711 by December 31, 2009. If such declaration is not made by the deadline, the Central District Registrar shall have the final authority to certify the eligibility of such player based solely on the effective date of the earlier Team Roster Form (*Form 1-T submitted*). Violation of this regulation may result in your team facing expulsion from the tournament.
8. The AHAI Girls Committee has secured the Crystal Ice House in Crystal Lake, Illinois to conduct all playoff games. All Championship games will take place on Championship weekend at the AHAI Ice Center in Bensenville from February 25 - 28, 2010. All consolation games will be played at the Crystal Ice House in Crystal Lake, Illinois.
9. By completing the electronic application it is understood that the Champions determined in the 12 and Under "A" and "AA", 14 and Under "A" and "AA", 16 & Under "AA" and 19 & Under "AA" Divisions must advance to the Central District Tournament, March 19-21, 2010.
10. Should an organization withdraw from the tournament after the registration deadline, there will be no refund and that organization's girls' teams may not be eligible for the Blackhawk Cup the following year.

If you have any questions, comments, or problems with the electronic registration process, please feel free to contact Sjoukje Brown McCudden at [referette@sbcglobal.net](mailto:referette@sbcglobal.net).

Thank you for your cooperation and good luck!  
Sincerely,

Sjoukje Brown McCudden  
*Chairperson, AHAI Girls' Committee*

Anita Lichterman  
*Chairperson, 2010 AHAI Blackhawk Cup Committee*



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