



TEAM CAROLINA PROGRAM

The Team Carolina program was founded in 2001 to address the needs of the higher caliber players in North Carolina & South Carolina. We are very proud of the growth and reputation of our program. Our scope is that we want to expose our players to the higher level of play that will be required especially if they continue their sights beyond youth hockey. Team Carolina can help address those needs. Team Carolina is a Regional AAA organization that is composed of players within and outside of our two state Affiliate area.

In March 2003, Team Carolina was awarded Tier I / AAA status by the Carolina Amateur Hockey Association (USA Hockey Affiliate). This classification takes the Team Carolina program up another level as to the quality of competition it will experience. Team Carolina is the only Tier I organization in our CAHA Affiliate.

We presently have a strategy in place that we will field one (1) team at each age level of play: Squirt (10U), Pee Wee (12U), Bantam (14U), and Midget (16U). Team Carolina is not a local youth hockey association. Fielding more teams at the Major / Minor birth year is a possibility, but only if the caliber of talent is available.

Team Carolina takes great pride in the Coaches that they are able to secure each year. This is another enormous difference in the Team Carolina program – not only is the play at a higher competitive level – the Coaching quality is on another level. The Team Carolina coaches are selected very carefully each year to insure the quality of the program is not sacrificed. Our coaches have a fantastic work ethic and also a vast network of resources.

COST OF TEAM CAROLINA

Regular season player fees for Team Carolina this season are estimated to be at \$3700 - \$3900 depending on which team.

- Ice Costs (games, weekend practices & weeknight practices)
- Home & Away Jerseys, Team Carolina Practice Jersey, Home & Away socks, Practice socks, Team Carolina Game Pant Shells, Team Carolina game day wind-suit
- Coach Travel Expenses
- (6) Tournament Fees including USAH SE Districts
- Referee Fees & Expenses

The regular season fee does not cover the cost of travel. It is important to know exactly what the financial & time commitment is on the front end before a roster spot is accepted. It is very hard to estimate expenses above and beyond the regular season fee since different families have different travel preferences. We have received feedback from our parent groups that they will spend \$6000 - \$9000 per season in regards to travel expenses.

PRACTICES

Our weeknight practice format incorporates us having practices in three cities on different weeknights. Historically the practice sites during the week have been Charlotte, Raleigh, and Charleston. These weeknight practices are specifically for Team Carolina players for all teams and are run by Team Carolina Coaches. Our weekend practices are held in the same locations generally, but are team specific. With four or five teams, we will find that different teams will be in different locations on these weekend practice days. We will occasionally have all teams in one city for weekend practices if ice is available. With our new facility in Charlotte, Extreme Ice Center, we will have more flexibility of having multiple teams in the same location on weekends.

LENGTH OF SEASON

Once the season gets under way with practices in August, we will go through early March when the USA Hockey Southeast District Tournament are held. If any of our teams advance to Nationals, we will go into early April.

TRY OUTS

Per our USA Hockey Affiliate Bylaws (CAHA) governing tryout periods, Tier I tryouts must take place in the month of May only unless specifically approved by CAHA.

Team Carolina will have their teams announced usually the day after the tryouts. All Tier I Players must sign Tier I Player Agreements at the point of accepting a roster spot.

Tryout information usually is available in early April or can be viewed on the Team Carolina website at www.teamcarolina.org

Further information regarding our USA Hockey Affiliate, CAHA (Carolina Amateur Hockey Association) can be found at www.carolinahockey.org