



September 1, 2015

McKnight Hockey Association Registration Mailer 2015-2016 Season

Thank you for registering with McKnight Hockey Association.

In this Registration mailer you will find important information about the upcoming hockey season with McKnight. Should you have any questions regarding the following, *please contact your Division Coordinator*, contact information is on your division website page. Please refer to your division website pages for the most up to date information!

Please note that some of this information may not pertain to your division specifically, therefore please check with your division coordinator if you are unsure.

Important Dates & Events:

Please remember to check out the McKnight Calendar. Here you will find important dates and events. Here are just a few important items already on the calendar:

- “Free” Skate Ice Times – Posted on each of the Division Website pages (first week of September before Evaluations)
- Community Hockey Evaluation Schedule – Posted on each of the Division Website pages (most starting on or after September 8)
- Bantam Checking Clinic – Four sessions from September 1 – 5, please choose one
- Parent Evaluation Information Meeting – Wednesday, September 2
- Referee Orientation meeting – Friday, September 4
- Timbits Orientation meeting – Sunday, September 13
- Coach Application Deadline date – Tuesday, September 15
- House League Start date – Saturday, October 3 and Sunday, October 4
- Coach Orientation meeting – Sunday, October 4
- Team Manager Orientation meeting – Monday, October 5
- Team Photo day – Saturday, November 7
- CHC Casino – Saturday, February 21 and Sunday, February 22, 2016
- CNC Casino – April – July 2016, TBA

Free Skate Ice Times:

To avoid any wasted ice, the McKnight Ice Schedulers have provided Timbits – Junior C Divisions with “Free Skate” ice times. This is time to get your player back on the ice, check skates, equipment, etc. No pucks on the ice for the younger ages. ***Please refer your division website page/calendar for your ice time(s).***

Team Selection Process:

Players are expected to attend **ALL** McKnight Hockey conditioning and evaluation ice times assigned to them. If your child is unable to attend any of these ice times for any reason, please contact your Division Evaluation Coordinator prior to the ice time; failure to do so will result in a zero for that session. Players are to attend only the ice times assigned to them. Contact information is available on your Division website.

Evaluations – Novice to Midget:

Player and goalie evaluation times have been posted to your Division website page. ***Please bookmark this page!*** Players will be split into groups alphabetically for their first ice time slots. Parents and players are expected to become familiar with the McKnight Evaluation process through the material available on our website. McKnight will host a Parent Evaluation Information Meeting on Wednesday, September 2, 2015. If you have any questions or concerns, please attend the meeting. If you missed the meeting, please refer to the notice with all the information. Please check the McKnight Calendar for all of the details. The Division



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Evaluation Coordinators will soon contact you by email indicating which evaluation time slot your player(s) are scheduled to attend. This information will also be posted on the division website page. Any discrepancy between an email receive and the website, please refer to the email and contact your division evaluation coordinator.

Bantam Checking Clinic:

Once again McKnight will offer a Bantam Checking Clinic for all Bantam players. This year there are 4 sessions, please choose one session. Register online, as space is limited to 20 per ice time. Additional information is on the Bantam website.

Quadrant Hockey – Bantam and Midget:

For those players that have registered with McKnight Hockey and will also be trying out for Quadrant Hockey with the Calgary Northstars, please note the following, if:

Playing for Northstars – contact the McKnight Registrar to have your child removed from our registration list. If you have paid or provided us a post-dated cheque we will make arrangements for a refund or return/destroy your cheque.

Playing for McKnight – post-dated cheques will be cashed upon your return to McKnight. If you have not submitted your payment prior to your evaluation skate with McKnight, please remember to bring it with you or your child will not be allowed on the ice. Additionally payments can be made online via credit card. Please login to the registration program and click on “pay outstanding balances”. Please contact the McKnight Registrar for more details.

Goalies – Community Hockey Only:

Goalies are a designated position for Atom – Junior C. (This does not include our Novice and Atom House Divisions – Goalies will rotate during the season.) Goalies are evaluated separately from players. These will take place prior to the player evaluations. Again this year McKnight has partnered with GDI (Goalie Development Inc.) to complete the Goalie Evaluation Process. **Goalie evaluation schedules are posted on the Division websites.** McKnight recognizes that there may be situations where there are more goalies in a particular division than spots available. Goalie evaluators, goalies and parents will be made aware of the situation as early as possible. **Please refer to the Goalie website page to familiarize yourself with options should this situation arise for your goalie.** If you have any questions, please contact your Goalie Evaluation Coordinator, contact information is on your division website page.

Goalie Clinic – Atom to Midget:

McKnight will again offer a Goalie Clinic for all Atom-Midget goalies. This year’s program is a 6-week program at a cost of \$125. Please ensure that you sign up and pay online. **For more information please refer to our Goalie Clinic Registration page.**

Equipment:

It is important that equipment be worn properly at all times! Please check your child’s equipment for size and fit prior to the start of evaluations. Check to make sure the skates are sharp and that their stick is the correct height! These are their tools for success! **Please refer to our Parents tab for information on equipment requirements and sizing.** If you have questions about your child’s equipment, please do not hesitate to ask our Division Evaluation Coordinators for assistance.

Buy and Sell:

If you have any gently used equipment that you’d like to sell, why not try out our **McKnight Classified page?** Or alternatively, you can donate your gently used equipment to the Comrie’s Sports Equipment Bank, check out their website for more information. <http://www.comriessportsequipmentbank.org>



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Referees:

Are you interested in wearing the stripes? Referee clinics are available for anyone interested aged 13 and older (as of December 31, 2015). Either McKnight or the Central Zone Referee's Committee will assign referees Hockey Calgary games. Come out to our Referee Orientation meeting on **Friday, September 4, 2015** to have all of your questions answered. **Please visit the Referee Info page for more information.**

Coaches:

Coaching applications are still being accepted. Anyone wishing to coach, **MUST** complete an online application. Application deadline for all coaches is **Tuesday, September 15, 2015**. All McKnight coaches require certification. Please note that Hockey Calgary has updated some of these requirements. **Coaching requirements are listed on the Coaches website page.** Coaches are responsible for providing proof of certification upon request. Coaching clinics are available for sign up in late summer/early fall, prior to the current season. *These clinics fill up early! Sign up today!* McKnight will reimburse coaches for fees associated with certification courses.

ALL Coaching staff must complete the Respect In Sport – Coach Program (or the previous “Speak Out”). **Please refer to our Coaches website page for more information and to take the program.** The program costs \$30 and is eligible for reimbursement.

ALL Coaching staff must complete the Hockey Canada Safety (or the previous “Speak Out”). **Please refer to our Coaches website page for more information and to take the program.** The program costs \$30 and is eligible for reimbursement.

ALL Coaching staff must have a valid police information check. These are valid for 4 years within McKnight, if you are new to coaching or know yours has expired, you will be required to complete the necessary PIC form. **Please refer to our Coaches website page for more information.**

Each season, upon selection, a Coach Orientation Meeting will be held; this is a mandatory meeting for ALL coaches. The Coach meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, October 4, 2015**. **Please refer to the Coaches website page for more details.**

Team Managers:

Being a team manager is a very important and demanding volunteer position. It is a demanding but very rewarding role. If you are interested in being a team manager this season, please talk with your Head Coach.

Each season, a Team Manager Orientation Meeting will be held; this is a mandatory meeting for ALL team managers. Mark your calendars if you're planning on being a team manager this season. The Team Manager meeting is scheduled for **Monday, October 5, 2015**. **Please refer to the Managers website page for further details.**

Children's Fitness Tax Credit:

Receipts for the Children's Fitness Tax Credit are available for parents online. Parents are able to login and print off receipts, as needed. **Please refer to our FAQ's for additional details.** (Unfortunately, this does not apply to Thorncliffe Greenview members – Please contact TGCA for information.)

Timbits:

Timbits is an introduction to hockey, where FUN and skating will be emphasized! Timbits utilize “home ice” only and do not have a formalized schedule of actual games. All ice times are shared to keep costs low. Teams are registered with Hockey Calgary in order to be covered under its insurance policy. Families new to hockey will be provided an opportunity to attend our Timbits Orientation Meeting scheduled for **Sunday, September 13, 2015** at TGCA at 7pm, meeting information is posted to the Timbits division page. **For more information on our Timbits program refer to the Timbits Division page.**



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Timbits Learn to Play Program:

Hockey Calgary provides families the opportunity to join the Timbits Learn to Play Program. It will provide parents, coaches and first year Timbits players an opportunity to experience Timbits Hockey and Hockey Calgary in a fun and educational environment. Players will participate in five (5) ice sessions conducted by instructors from the National Sport Academy with the assistance of volunteer Coaches designed around the FUNdamentals of hockey. McKnight Timbits players participation is scheduled for September 7 – 11, 2-15 at Max Bell Arena. Coaches wanting to coach will also have the opportunity to take part in a Clinic administered by Hockey Calgary where they will gain the resources and confidence needed to coach a Timbits team. **Please refer to the Hockey Calgary website for more information, registration is closed.**

Novice:

All teams will be seeded within Hockey Calgary and will participate as teams in the Hockey Calgary Novice Development League. The city is divided into North and South divisions to ease the travel burden on these younger players. Novice teams will not play league games against South teams; however, the teams may play “team arranged” exhibition games. There are no city playoffs within Novice. **For more information on the Novice Development League, please refer to the Hockey Calgary website.**

House League – Novice and Atom:

New this Year! McKnight is now part of the new North Calgary House League that encompasses teams from McKnight, Simons Valley and the Calgary Saints. This is a program that allows players to get to know the game of hockey with a reduced and fixed schedule. Before the season gets underway we may schedule an orientation meeting for parents. Please refer to our House League website page for up to date information. **Season starts on October 3, 2015.**

Junior C Team:

McKnight is able to field a Junior C team this year. We have coaches ready and enough players. Please refer to your division website page for all of the updates.

Flames Even Strength Program:

The Flames Even Strength Program is a financial assistance program administered by Hockey Calgary. Applicants are responsible for completing applications and providing all supporting documentation as required by the program. Applications are evaluated by Hockey Calgary based on specific criteria. Applicants will need to arrange payment for the remainder of any fees, (minimum \$100 please refer to the website for fee amounts) over the subsidized amount at time of registration to McKnight. Submitting your application at walk-in does not guarantee subsidy from the program. McKnight will contact you about the status of your application. Any applicants not approved, will be required to pay the balance of registration fees to McKnight or apply for the McKnight Financial Aid Program. Please refer to our Financial Assistance website page for all details!

Casinos:

McKnight is scheduled to volunteer at two casinos approximately every 18 months. These casinos are granted to the CHC and CNC community associations but the proceeds of these casinos benefit all of McKnight. **CHC Casino dates are Sunday, February 21 and Monday, February 22, 2016.** CNC Casino dates will be scheduled for July 2016, TBA. We will require approximately 40 volunteers for each casino. Please do your part and help us out. Sign up will once again be available online immediately. Members that volunteer at a casino will receive a \$100 credit towards hockey registration.

Silent Auction:

This year the Thorncliffe Greenview Community Association will manage and host the silent auction! More information on date and time TBA. Information will come on how teams can participate to earn much needed team funds will be provided soon. **Remember: This is a great event to come out and socialize with familiar and new McKnight families! Be sure to mark the date on your calendar, and help make this event another huge success!**



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Car Raffle:

Unfortunately McKnight was unable to secure its AGLC licensing to proceed with the Car Raffle this year. This will be back again next year!

McKnight Board Meetings:

McKnight Board meetings are open to all of its members. Meetings will be posted to our general calendar. They will take place once a month. **Please refer to the McKnight Calendar for more details.** If you have something to share with the McKnight Board, please send a note to our McKnight Secretary to have it added to the agenda.

Volunteers:

McKnight is still looking for volunteers for some key roles, including: Hockey Calgary League Chairpersons, , Silent Auction Committee Members, and CNC Casino Volunteers. Please contact us immediately if you are interested. **Please refer to our Volunteers notice on our home page.**

McKnight Hockey would like to again thank all volunteers involved in the 2014-2015 hockey season and we hope your enthusiasm brings you back for the coming year. The success of McKnight Hockey is only as a result of dedicated volunteers, like you!

Volunteer positions within McKnight include: Board members, Directors, Division Directors, Team Volunteers, and Casino Volunteers. Check out our Organizational Chart to see who's holding these positions.

Not Volunteering?

When volunteers do NOT step forward, the work associated with that position may not be completed and the program may well have to be discontinued.

The more volunteers we have the less work there is for everyone!

Volunteer Cheques:

Families are required to provide a \$200 volunteer cheque post-dated to March 31, 2016, (made out to McKnight Hockey Association) for each player. Each family is required to provide 10 hours of volunteer service during the season for each player. **Cheques must be submitted to your Team Manager prior to your third team skate.** Please bring your cheque with you to your child's first team skate. Parents who choose not to provide a volunteer cheque may have their player removed from the ice until such time a cheque is received. **Some volunteers are exempt from providing a volunteer cheque due to the extensive nature of their volunteering. Please refer to the McKnight Volunteer Credit Information form found on the Volunteers website page.**

Volunteer Appreciation Program:

Each year the McKnight Board nominates a McKnight volunteer for their amazing efforts throughout the season, or past seasons. Please say thank you by nominating a volunteer. **Please refer to our Volunteer website page and complete a nomination form today!** They may be eligible for our Volunteer of the Year award and honored at this year's Hockey Calgary Awards Gala in April 2016.

Feedback

Do you have something important to share? Don't know who to talk to? Send an email to webadmin@mcknighthockey.com and we'll make sure it gets to the right person.



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McKnight Website:

Do you know how to maneuver through the McKnight website? Do you have a RAMPBook account? Don't be afraid of your computer? We hope the following information helps you. Should you have any questions, please check with your Team Manager.

McKNIGHT WEBSITE:

As a parent we encourage you to use the McKnight website, OFTEN. This will be your connection to your Team, Division and the McKnight Association.

There are three main components to the website that you will find useful. A team website page, this is all things related only to your team. Your Team Manager/team designate will post on this page. A division website page, this is all things related to your division only. There are times throughout the season that your Division Coordinator will post important information that is specific to your division. Finally, the main website pages, these pages are populated by our Communications Director at the recommendations of our McKnight Board to keep all of our McKnight families informed on a variety of all thing hockey!

Here is useful information to help you navigate....

TEAM WEBSITE:

Find your team website under the Divisions tab on the left. Click on your team. This will take you to your team website home page. Here you will find news articles posted by your team manager. At the top of your team page you can then access information regarding:

staff – contact information for your coaches, manager, treasurer, etc.

roster – team roster.

practices – all practices posted by the Ice Schedulers, as well as any additional practices posted by your team manager.

schedule – all games posted by the Ice Schedulers, as well as any tournament, exhibition games posted by your team manager.

stats and standings – this is an “unofficial” statistical report of your team and their accomplishments, this information is not used for any official stats with Hockey Calgary!

albums – here you may access team photos as posted by your team manager, if you have a photo to post, please forward it to your team manager.

DIVISION WEBSITE:

To navigate to your Division website please click on the Divisions tab on the left of the McKnight website and click on your division. There you will see a list of the Division Directors. If your Division Coordinator has posted any news, this is where you can find it! This is where you will find information on your Evaluation Ice Times and Division Specific Events, (example, “Novice” Free Skate).



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McKNIGHT WEBSITE:

We are continuously adding important information for parents on the McKnight website, please check back often. Important News and Events are posted on the Home Page. Please click on “Events” or “News” to access these articles. Many of these events can also be accessed on the “Calendar”. We are also on Facebook and Twitter, so please follow us for the most up to date information.

RAMPBook:

What is RAMPBook? RAMPBook is a tool that is used to manage your player’s activities (schedules, statistics, standings, news, events, etc.)

If you have more than one child in hockey then it’s a definite must! You can track your child’s hockey life, season by season. You can sync your calendars of multiple children into one! You can download or link your calendar to your computer, Blackberry, iPhone, etc. To check it out click on the link “**RAMPBook Login**” on the McKnight homepage.