

Learn To Skate Info for 2012/2013 Season

- Most LTS practices will occur on Mondays and Fridays starting at 6:00. It is important to keep an eye on the schedule which is posted on the Iron Range Hockey Website for changes www.ironrangehockey.com. Look for the tab on the right hand side of the home page that says Complete Schedule. This gets updated quite often especially when the High School Team Starts in November. Occasionally, Friday practices may be moved to Saturday Mornings because of HS games. We also have a facebook page which is used as a tool in case of last minute changes: www.facebook.com/IronRangeHockey.
- Make sure that your skater has registered with USA Hockey. This registration covers the players insurance and is mandatory to have to get on the ice. USA Hockey registration is easy and free for those skaters with birthdates from 2006 and after. This takes only a few minutes to do.
 - www.usahockey.com
 - Click on players tab
 - Click on register on line
 - Click on Ice Players and Coaches
 - Check box that you are 18 years or older and Click Continue
 - Click Continue-for those players that are birth year 2005 and older there is a \$45 charge for registration.
 - Check box if for you as a coach or for a child family member
 - Follow the prompts
 - When finished the registration will be emailed to the email address you selected. Please print a copy of this for our association. You may be given the chance to print just after registering also. We cannot process the registration without this document.
- **For registration night**
 - USA Hockey Registration
 - Copy of Birth Certificate
 - \$200 for raffle tickets-every player in IRHA sells tickets for our fundraiser. You sell the tickets and keep the money. Ticket stubs are given to team parent once you have sold all of the tickets. Usually these are due in November.
 - IRHA Registration Form with \$50 for registration
- A Team Parent is important to you. This person will be able to answer or, to get any answer that you may have. If you would be interested please let someone know as soon as possible. More than one parent can share this position.
- Concession Stand. Your Team Parent will either assign or pass around a signup sheet for concession duties. Concession procedures are found on the Form/Documents section of our website. We help keep the cost of hockey down for our association by running a concession stand.

- Coaches/Instructors: Any parent, guardian, family member or friend may help out on the ice. No need for prior experience, although, you should be able to stand up on skates at a minimum ☺. All help is welcome. To be eligible to enter the ice area for learn to skate a minimum of an age appropriate module, taken online, from USA Hockey is required. A Level 1 course may be taken also but is not required. Classes for the age appropriate modules are available now at USA Hockey and require that you register as a coach first. The Level 1 classes will be offered in Marquette in October and someone from IRHA or your team parent will keep you informed of the classes. This is only a class and there is no on ice instruction. ANYONE can, and is encouraged, to take the class and help out. The fee for the class and module is usually around \$50 and our association will reimburse you the full amount if you help out on the ice. A USA Hockey coach registration is also reimbursed by IRHA. No prior hockey experience is needed. Coaches are required to wear a helmet. Ask a board member if you have any questions.
- Our first schedule practice will be determined shortly. There is no doubt that there will be a lot of activity at the rink that night. Just let your skater know that it will be busy and will take a few practices to get everyone settled in. Many experienced coaches and association members will be around to help out. It is not uncommon for so much activity that a skater becomes shy and doesn't want to enter the ice. Let us know and we can help.
- The recommended minimum equipment requirement is a HECC Hockey Helmet (with mask), skates and a heavy pair of mittens or gloves. If you borrowed equipment from the association suit up with it all or whatever your skater is comfortable with. Some kids will skate with snow pants on to keep warm. If your skaters helmet is too big try a winter hat or "skull cap" to make it more fitting. Our experience is if the helmet is too tight or the skater feels confined by tight fitting equipment it will not be fun experience until they get used to the equipment. USA Hockey, Michigan Amateur Hockey Association and IRHA require the helmet with cage for skaters. All on ice coaches or helpers are required to wear a helmet. The skaters will start learning to skate first so sticks really aren't needed at first.
- We are always in need of volunteers. If you would like to help contribute to the success and sustainability of our association please contact a board member or association member.
 - We are currently looking for:
 - Learn to Skate-Assistant Coaches, Team Parent or Co-Team Parents
 - Director of Learn to Skate-This is an off ice position and is mainly an overseer of the program and recommends new programs and practices.
 - Learn to Skate Head Coach-This is on ice and directs all assistant coaches.
 - Director of Fundraising-This position would develop a system to contact corporate sponsors for 3 levels of fundraising: Team Sponsors, Advertising Sponsors and Program Sponsors.
 - Grant Director-This year we obtained two grants. If you have any prior experience, or you would want to help out with this important task please contact you team parent or someone from the IRHA Board.