

# The Gardens ICE HOUSE

## TGIH AHL Captains Meeting 7/26/2021

Welcome!

If you have specific questions about your individual team, please contact League Management directly (Billy, Nikki, or Kim)

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The Fall/Winter Season will start **September 7<sup>th</sup>** and will run through late May

Since this is different than our past seasons, we are not sure what this change in schedule will mean for our Spring/Summer season, but we will assess and update as we get closer to the Spring/Summer season

Roster Freeze will take effect **November 6<sup>th</sup>**

This season will include 6 additional games

26 regular season games with 1 single-elimination playoff game

These 6 games (at no additional cost) make up for the 6 game average that was dropped off the Fall/Winter 2019-2020 season due to COVID-19

Playoff eligibility requirements will remain the same (7 games for all divisions, except Gold 5 games) even though players will have 6 additional games to complete the playoff eligibility requirement

We want teams to get as many players to sign up as possible so players can have more games played and everyone can be involved throughout the entire season

The cost is the same, even though we are adding 6 games:

\$8,618 if team registers before August 15<sup>th</sup> and Captain pays the full fee

\$8,818 if team registers before August 15<sup>th</sup> and Captain allocates the team fee to players

\$8,795 if team registers after August 15<sup>th</sup> and Captain pays the full fee

\$8,995 if team registers after August 15<sup>th</sup> and Captain allocates the team fee to players

Registration will open on **August 1<sup>st</sup>**

Please note: the end of the discount period is **August 15<sup>th</sup>**

#### Division Parity:

We rely on Captains to help position their teams into the correct division

We also rely on Captains to help identify players who are playing at an inappropriate division level for their abilities; if you have identified any such players, please let us know so we can properly address any concerns

Our goal is to get feedback from Captains and open a dialogue with all the teams to ensure competitive divisions are created

We will be opening registration with all possible divisions available for teams to register where they see fit for their team (Gold, Silver Upper, Silver Middle, Silver Lower, Bronze 1, Bronze 2A, Bronze 2B, Bronze 3A, Bronze 3B, Bronze 4)

Team Captains will receive an email on Tuesday, July 27<sup>th</sup> with the League's registration recommendation based on the Spring/Summer 2021 season

This season will include the seeding rounds during which the League will assess teams and move teams if needed

#### Player Waiting List Tryouts:

We have three ice slots designated for player waiting list tryouts

This is an opportunity for Captains to come and watch players on the wait list in order to recruit

Dates are:

Sunday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:45pm

Tuesday, August 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:20pm

Thursday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm

#### USA Hockey Rule Changes:

We encourage all Adult Hockey League Captains and players to review the USA Hockey rule changes that will be taking effect as of September 1<sup>st</sup>

A majority of these changes relate to terminology, but the rule changes compose 11 pages and would be helpful to review prior to the start of the season

#### Reminder of Fighting Penalties:

Our League rules define fighting as "includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. Punching, or attempting to punch another player. A punch, or an attempted punch, thrown by any player in the direction of an opponent, regardless as to whether contact is made, is considered fighting.
2. Any quarrel, wrestling, or shoving between players that requires stoppage of play or disruption in the game to resolve or break up."

We have seen an uptick in these and other similar penalties this season, and we wanted to take the opportunity to remind our teams that we are a non-contact league and take these situations extremely seriously.

#### Adult Hockey League Survey:

We will be sending out an Adult Hockey League Survey to all Captains and players

We are thinking of hosting an All Star Game this year

All Star Game would be of no additional cost to players

We would ask teams to nominate a couple of players to participate

We would have 4 different games: Gold, Silver, Bronze, and Bronze 4

Potentially would host the games on January 1<sup>st</sup> along with a Winter Classic Watch Party

Please be on the look out for a survey as this will be helpful for us to gauge interest

#### The Gardens Ice House's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

We are celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on September 11, 2021. As part of our celebration, we will be having an open house to showcase our programs

Additionally, we will have 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary swag to hand out to players throughout the course of this season

We also would like to recognize those players in our League who have played 500+ games, so please be on the look out for more information

#### Partnerships:

The Gardens Ice House Adult Hockey League is now partnering with Ourisman Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram of Clarksville

We will have a personal contact at the dealership if you are interested in purchasing a vehicle

Please contact Billy or Kim for more information

#### COVID Related Restrictions?

As of right now, there are no current COVID related protocols or restrictions. We cannot predict whether or not that will change. Our hope is that there will be no restrictions, but we cannot guarantee. We will follow whatever guidelines the County gives us, but we do not feel comfortable imposing restrictions outside of what the County requires. We will not be requiring vaccinations nor will we be inquiring as to vaccination status.

#### What will the roster cap be for this season?

Teams will be allowed to roster up to 30 players. Individual players will also have an additional 30 days to register for their teams.

#### What is the minimum number of teams needed to field a division?

The minimum number is typically 4 teams, but over the course of a 26 game season it can be difficult to have a 4 team division. Our ideal numbers for each division is between 6-10 teams, but we

don't want to place teams incorrectly simply to have a larger division size. We can review any issues on a case by case basis. We are also open to any situations in which we can have teams play games across divisions in order to ensure competitive play. Our goal is to be as flexible as possible to ensure game play will work for everyone.

#### Refund?

The rink reserves the right to amend or cancel a season as appropriate in the event of a pandemic or other unforeseen circumstance. If for instance, the season closes for 2 weeks we will do everything in our power to make those games up. If for instance, the rink is shutdown for 6 months, providing refunds to everyone would be extremely difficult and we would do our best to make up the games missed when the rink reopens. Specific questions are welcome to be addressed directly to Billy.

#### Time of Games?

In the past two years, 10:20pm was the latest game start. However, for this season with the additional 6 games, the latest game start will be 10:40pm. Due to the nature of the Fall/Winter schedule, the season will likely be backloaded, but we will do our best to create as balanced a schedule as possible.

#### Credits?

Some teams had credits from a previous season and everyone was allowed to carry over those credits for one year. This Fall/Winter season those credits will need to be applied or they will expire. Captains will need to pay the deposit for the team and then the credits will be applied, credits cannot be applied to the deposit. Please contact Nikki if you think you have a credit.

Please contact League Management if you have any questions or concerns that were not addressed during the meeting. Thank you!