



D155 PREDATORS HOCKEY CLUB

2024 – 2025 HANDBOOK

MISSION

To provide a competitive Varsity and Junior Varsity hockey experience for the players, the parents and community of the D155 High Schools in an environment that is healthy and safe.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The D155 Predators hockey teams are a non-sponsored high school sport. While the District and schools do not oversee the operation of the club, playing under the D155 Predator name and logo requires that the club, members and players conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively upon the schools and community.

- **Respect for the Individual:** Treat all others as you would like to be treated.
- **Enjoyment:** It is important for the hockey experience to be fun, satisfying, and rewarding.
- **Pursuit of Excellence at the Individual, Team, and Organization Levels:** Each member of the organization, whether player, volunteer, or staff, should seek to perform each aspect of the game to the highest level of his or her ability.
- **Integrity:** Work to promote honesty and fair play beyond mere strict interpretation of the rules of the game.
- **Sportsmanship:** To learn a sense of fair play. Become humble in victory and gracious in defeat.
- **Loyalty:** We aspire to teach loyalty to the ideals and fellow members of the sport of hockey. **Teamwork:** We value the strength of learning to work together.

COACHES AND BOARD MEMBERS

The D155 Predators Hockey Club coaching staff and Board of Directors are committed to providing a quality hockey program for D155 players. Please feel free to bring any questions or concerns to your team manager, coach, or any board member. In general, ice issues should be addressed to the team manager and/or coaches, while the Board of Directors address off-ice issues, such as club policy, fee payment, etc.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Codes of conduct for coaches, players and parents shall be posted on the D155 Predators website. All participants will be expected to comply with their respective code of conduct.



FEE STRUCTURE

2024 – 2025 Fall Season Fees

\$600 Registration Fee + \$5,000 Fall Fees

A \$600 non-refundable registration fee is due at time of registration and covers fees associated with rostering, hockey mini-camp, and evaluations. Players will not be permitted to participate in hockey mini-camp or evaluations until this fee is paid. This registration fee is required regardless of whether your player participates in the camp. The remaining \$5,000 can be paid in installments. Payments are due on the 1st of the month in September, October, November, December, and January. Players will not be allowed to participate if payments are not made in a timely manner. Players will be eligible to return to the ice once their account is up to date. You can pay in full at any time.

Registration Fees include Game Socks, Shirts, and Shorts for all players. New Players to the D155 Fall Season will receive a practice jersey (if not received in the Spring), jacket, and game shells to go over their pants. Game Jerseys are not included in the fees and must be purchased by the player. Replacement jerseys, jackets, pants, and shells are available for purchase through the Registrar. Hockey Bags are not included in the fees and may be purchased by the player through the Registrar.

All Fees Paid are non-refundable. If a player is placed on a team, the full fees are expected to be paid as outlined herein.

PAYMENT STRUCTURE

- \$600 non-refundable registration fee due at the time of registration
- 5 Installments - \$1,000 each due on or before the 1st day of the month in September, October, November, December, and January; total of \$5,000
- Families may pay the entire amount in full at any time

PAYMENTS

- Pay with Credit Card, Debit Card, or Bank Draft through TeamSnap
- Pay with a check. All checks are to be made payable to D155 Predators Hockey Club and mailed to the following address (please allow extra time if mailing):

D155 Predators Hockey Club
P.O. Box 1525
Crystal Lake, IL 60039-1525



REFUND

All Fees Paid are non-refundable. When a player is placed on a team, the full fees are expected to be paid as outlined herein.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

The Athletic Director, or designee, is responsible for checking the records of students at the beginning of the activity and then weekly to determine eligibility. The designee will notify the Hockey Director of ineligible students. Any player that is listed as academically ineligible will not be allowed to play any games until the Hockey Director is notified by the designee of the player's eligibility status change.

VARSITY / JUNIOR VARSITY TEAMS

Based on registration numbers and the available coaching candidates, the D155 Predators Hockey Club will strive to have 3 teams in the Illinois High School Hockey League North Central Division but reserves the right to reduce this number to 2 teams based on enrollment numbers and coaching availability. The placement on a team is determined solely by the coaching staff. At the coach's discretion players may be double rostered with another D155 team, which may allow the player to play on their designated team and up one level on a higher positioned team, at the coach's discretion. It is possible that double-rostered players might not be called up during a season.

The coaching staff determines ice time at the high school level. **At the Varsity and Junior Varsity levels, equal ice time is not a requirement.** At certain points in any game such as power plays or a close game, equal ice time may not be provided. Our primary objective is to develop players so they can advance to the higher-level teams, thus any player, who would like to know how he/she might improve their level of play, is encouraged to discuss the issue with the coaching staff. Parents who wish to discuss such issues are asked to speak with their team manager to set up an appointment to discuss with the coaching staff or to set up an appointment to discuss with the Board.



PLAYERS DOUBLE ROSTERED WITH OTHER CLUB TEAMS OR SPORTS

During the registration process and throughout the season, any player that plans on double rostering with another sport (non-hockey) must inform the Club and their coach. All players must understand that D155 Predators is committed to providing an enjoyable and competitive experience for all players and therefore players must consider the commitment to their D155 team as their Primary Team. This will be the team with whom the player is expected to practice and play games whenever there is a conflict with another team. Should conflicts arise the player is expected to discuss the conflict with their head coach. Any questions should be directed to the Hockey Director as he has complete discretion in allowing players to double roster with another hockey club and to settle any conflict issues between teams.

Varsity Players cannot double roster with another hockey team.

Junior Varsity Players may double roster with another hockey team with permission from the Hockey Director. If double rostering, the D155 Predators High School team must take priority in the event of any conflicts.

EQUIPMENT

The D155 Predators will provide practice jerseys to all new players. All players will receive a new set of game socks at the start of each fall season.

Mouth Guards and Neck Guards are **required** for all players and are not provided by the club; these items are the responsibility of the player. Players who step on the ice without mouth guards and neck guards may be asked to leave the rink by any coach or official.



The D155 Predators require that all players wear black helmets and black hockey shells with the D155 Predators logo stitched on the shell.

Shells will be provided to all incoming players. Any player needing a new shell can purchase one from the Club as needed.

All other required hockey equipment is the player's responsibility.

GAMES, PLAYOFFS AND STATE

For the season the D155 Predators will play in the Illinois High School Hockey League North Central Division. Typically, each team will play games starting in September and ending in February with Playoffs and the State tournament starting in late February, early March. This is subject to change based on the League and Government orders.

TEAM PRACTICES

D155 is committed to developing players and teams. Each team is currently scheduled to have one on-ice skills session every other week, one off-ice skills session on a weekly basis, and two individual team practices each week. Exact scheduled dates will be sent out after registration and team placements. The schedule is subject to change based on ice availability, scheduling conflicts with games and tournaments, and school and holiday schedules.

TEAM PICTURES

Team and individual pictures will be taken at a normal practice at a date to be announced by the team managers. The team picture will be put in the school yearbook. You will have the option to purchase team and individual pictures.



PARENT VOLUNTEERS

We are asking each family to volunteer to help, as needed. D155 Predators Hockey does not receive funding from the D155 School District. All activities are planned by the board and volunteers and all activities are paid for by player fees and fund-raising activities. To help keep fees lower and to have a successful program, we need to have parent participation from each family. Each team will need volunteers in the positions below for the hockey season. Please take a few minutes to look over the positions needed. Since some of the positions are needed for specific teams, we will not fill positions until the teams are selected.

TEAM MANAGERS

You are the main liaison and support between the coaching staff and the team and parents, to be sure the season runs smoothly. Team Managers are expected to:

- Attend the Mandatory Coaches and Managers meeting at the beginning of the season;
- Schedule the start of year meeting with all parents and players. This is a meeting where the coach sets expectations and generally discusses the upcoming season and answers any questions. This takes place within the first week or so of the season.
- Act as a communication liaison for the D155 Board of Directors to all the families on a team. Managers will help communicate the team's ice times for practices and games to the players and will keep team records such as league standings, overall team records, and statistics with respect to team.
- Retain, throughout the season, the official team roster, Waiver Forms, Consent to Treat Medical Forms, and a copy of each coaches CEP card. Managers are required to bring these to every game and/or tournament and return it at the end of the year to the Vice President.
- Help designate, a timekeeper and security monitor for home games. The Team Manager shall perform this duty or assign it to a parent on the team.
- Report scores of all league games after each game (you will be given instructions at the Mandatory Coaches and Managers Meeting).

Team Managers may plan any events for the teams as desired. Please check with the coach prior to scheduling to ensure availability and to reduce any potential conflicts.



TEAM PHOTOGRAPHER

Take pictures of your specific team. We need a photographer for each team. Photos taken should be sent to the Board Vice President and Secretary for use throughout the season and can be used for the program, social media, picture boards and website. By registering with D155 you and your player agree to the use of their images in photos taken during games and events.

SECURITY (ORANGE JACKET)

We need a Security Liaison for each team for both home and away games. This volunteer person will arrive 20 minutes early and attend all league games and identify themselves to the other team. Security Liaison as the D155 Predators security liaison. Security Liaison will serve as an extra pair of eyes during the game to identify violations of the code of conduct, address any possible problems and handle accordingly and with assistance of local law enforcement, if necessary.

Security Liaison's are there to protect members of the D155 Predators Hockey Club from any potential violation of Club or League rules. The Security Liaison should not engage with the opposing team's officials, fans, or players. If intervention is needed, seek the assistance of the venue's management team or local law enforcement, if necessary.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES EXIST FOR EACH OF THE EVENTS BELOW:

Golf Tournament

Alumni Game

Holiday Party

Senior Night

Fund Raisers

Club and Team Parties



D155 PREDATORS HOCKEY CLUB

2024 – 2025 POLICIES

D155 PREDATORS HOCKEY CLUB POLICIES

The Board shall be responsible for the operations of the club, including approval of coaches, decisions on players' eligibility in terms of suspension, academics, and failure to comply with the rules and/or codes of conduct of the organization, by coaches, players, parents and other participants in the club.

The Hockey Director oversees the entire hockey program.

By signing up to play with the D155 Predators Hockey Club, players and parents understand that the placement of players on teams is the sole responsibility of the Hockey Director and coaches and such placement on specific teams is based on a variety of considerations, which may include a player's or parent's attitude, performance, and behaviors both on and off the ice.

The Head Coaches and Hockey Director have the authority to suspend a Player(s) for one game for a documented reason. Hockey director will communicate their decision with Rules and Ethics and to the player(s) parents. The Hockey Director and Head Coaches may suspend a Player(s) for one additional game for a documented reason, to be forwarded immediately to Rules and Ethics and the Board, and notification to the player(s) parents. Immediate attention to this matter will be given by Rules and Ethics to uphold, modify or reject the suspensions.

The Hockey Director and coaches run the ice. This includes evaluations, selecting the roster, what team you play on and the amount of ice time each player receives. **This is not a debatable situation.** Ice time can and will change from game to game.

The Varsity team is a high school varsity team. Its purpose is to compete at the highest level. The Junior Varsity teams are designed to develop players capable of moving up to the Varsity level and playing competitively. Junior Varsity Players may be moved up 1 team level based on the evaluation and needs of the Coaches and skills of the players during the season. Any movement of players is done specifically within the guiding rules of AHAI, USA Hockey, and Illinois High School Hockey Association.

The hockey director and coaches will provide appropriate feedback to the players, pointing out areas a player may need to improve his or her skills and competitiveness on a case by case basis.



Locker rooms will be closed to all but the players, coaches and approved screened individuals. If the coach needs another individual in the locker room, they will be invited. D155 Predators Hockey will abide by USA Hockey's policy regarding Locker Room Supervision and Co-Ed Locker Rooms.

The team coach or approved adult will not allow female players in the locker room until all male players are appropriately dressed. Any player being disrespectful to a female player will immediately be removed from the locker room and appear in front of the Rules and Ethics Board.

The coaches will determine the timetable for players to be dressed and ready for games, as well as, before practice sessions.

Players **must** attend all practices and games. You **must** notify your coach if you are going to miss a practice, game or team event, within the time frame outlined by your coaches. Injured and suspended players must still attend all practices, games and team events, as required by your coaches.

Off-ice training, weightlifting, watching film may be scheduled from time to time. Some may be optional, others mandatory.

Situations come up which may force you to miss a game/practice, but habitual absences will result in the loss of ice time. Hockey is a team sport and we need **everyone** at practices and games. You must be committed to your team and teammates.

SMOKING/VAPING AND USE OF ALCOHOL/DRUGS/TOBACCO PRODUCTS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. All players will be required to read and acknowledge, by signing, the D155 Predators Drug and Alcohol Policy. Fighting, or any form of bullying, whether physical or verbal, will not be tolerated.

Conduct on and off the ice, during games, practices and while representing the Club, is very important. Backtalk, inappropriate language, hand gestures, and overall negative and bad attitudes towards coaches, referees team/league officials, including representatives from other teams, other players, parents, and teammates will not be allowed.

Any violation of D155 Predators Code of Conduct will be subject to disciplinary actions, which can include suspension and removal from the team.

The Board of Directors and/or Coaches have the authority and discretion to impose additional game suspensions based on the nature of the infraction.

Players will follow the team dress code as directed by the coach.



If a player has questions about their play, ice time or any other issue they should discuss the matter with their coach. If the player is not comfortable with the coach's response, then the player can request a meeting with the Hockey Director to discuss.

PARENTS

The D155 Predators Hockey enforces the USA Hockey zero tolerance policy for parent conduct at games. If a parent has a concern or a complaint, report the matter to our Rules and Ethics Coordinator. It will be reviewed, and you will receive an appropriate and timely response once the matter has been investigated. D155 Predators Hockey will not tolerate abusive behavior towards the coaches, players, managers, Board members, or other family members. This includes games, practices, and team events. Disciplinary action can and will be taken by the Board. Failure to adhere to any disciplinary actions issued to a parent will allow the Hockey Director to issue a suspension against the parent's player or removal of the player from a team.