



# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

**The Raleigh Raptors Midget Major program is committed to creating a strong, family-centered community of individuals focused on all aspects of hockey development from puck skills, shooting and skating to high-level game competition and sportsmanship.**

**Our goal is to develop high level travel hockey players that are well-rounded, grounded, confident individuals— demonstrating leadership, teamwork and respect for themselves and others on and off the ice.**

**We hope to instill in our players a life-long passion for excellence, the game of hockey and service to others.**

**The U18 coaching staff is committed to helping our players grow on and off the ice with a special focus on leadership, communication skills and group dynamics/development.**



# AA PROGRAM FEATURES

## **Team Make-Up**

- Mixed AA, Birth Years 2005-2003
- National Bound, CHL Play

## **Two Program Options**

- 24 or 48 Full Ice Practices

## **4-5 Tournaments**

## **Dedicated Private Locker Room**

- Located in Wake Forest

## **Training Camp**

- 3 Hours of Classroom, 4 Hours On-Ice, Guest Speakers, Goal Setting

## **10 Hours of PTH Player Development**

## **In Season Video Review**

## **Player Evaluations & Development Plans**

## **By-Weekly Specialized Goalie Training**

## **Senior Night**

## **Planned Team Building & Social Events**

## **Game Day Environment**

- Detailed Player Warm-up, Position Meetings, Home Game Entrance Music, Pre-game Points of Emphasis, Post-Game Interviews

## **Social Platform**

- Use of Team Snap to quickly communicate and remind families of game and practice schedules. Social Media will be used to facilitate game updates, highlights and photos to friends and family.

## **Community Service**

- 2 Community Service Projects, 1 Non-Profit Showcase Game

## **Optional Shinny Program**

- Summer scrimmages and shinny tournament

## **Corporate Sponsor**



# OUR IDENTITY

- **Our environment will be based on four principles: Having Fun, Being a Good Teammate, Giving Max Effort and Respecting the Game and those that make it possible (parents, coaches, refs., teammates, other players, etc.).**
- **We will represent our organization, teammates, families and the community with class and honor.**
- **The strength of our program lies in the combination of high-level competition, player development and the commitment of our players and coaching staff to excellence and having fun.**
- **We will be the hardest working team – on and off the ice – in everything we do. We will outwork our competition every day at the rink, in our training facilities, in the classroom and in the community.**
- **We believe that having fun is an important goal.**
- **Our players and coaches will be accountable.**
- **We will encourage and engage in service and philanthropic activities to feel more connected to our community and each other.**
- **We expect our families and coaches to create and nurture open lines of communication.**
- **We want well-rounded kids in our program and will embrace their activities and interests outside of hockey.**



# FULL PROGRAM OVERVIEW

## **OPTIONAL SHINNY PROGRAM/TOURNAMENT**

The Raleigh Raptors will kick things off with an optional Shiny Hockey Program offered through Prime Time Hockey. The Program will run in the evenings after team selection and will focus on skating, fitness and player development through competitive scrimmages.

## **PRE-SEASON TRAINING CAMP**

The Raptor's U18 programs will kick-off in mid-August with a multi-day training camp. The camp will feature classroom learning, on-ice and off-ice instruction, player evaluations, team building and athletic training and testing. We will use camp to set expectations for our players and begin to instill our values and culture. The dates are being finalized.

## **GAME SCHEDULE**

The Raptors U18 teams will play between 35-40 games when you include tournament play. We will have 12 home games with many of our 'away' contests being in North Carolina.

## **ON-ICE PRACTICE**

The practice schedule will feature:

- Option for 22 or 44 Full Ice Practices
- Detailed Practice Plans, Organized Coaching Staff
- Located in Wake Forest
- Days, Times To Be Determined.

## **PRIME TIME HOCKEY PLAYER DEVELOPMENT**

Prime Time Hockey (PTH) has established itself as a leader in North America for advanced skating and skill development. PTH will direct our player development program through specialized on-ice instruction and optional off-ice training in their facility.

## **VIDEO REVIEW**

The use of video will be essential to our program. It will be utilized to reinforce what our players are doing well, identify areas of improvement and help in player evaluation. The coaching staff will watch games

and some practices to provide clips that will help in the development of our players.

## **PLAYER DEVELOPMENT**

Player evaluation will be critical part of our program. We feel it is important to provide our players and their parents with player development reviews throughout the season. Evaluations include:

- Evaluation of Skating, Hockey Skills, Attitude, Fitness and Positioning
- Three Evaluations: Preseason, Midseason and Postseason
- Use of Video
- Player Development Plans

## **SOCIAL EVENTS**

Part of our mission is to create a family environment and we will help nurture that through team activities away from the rink. There will be team funded events and parent-sponsored, less structured gatherings. The main events include:

- **Signing Party:** Making a travel hockey team is a giant accomplishment and we want to celebrate our players and their achievement. At the event players will be formally introduced as Raptors, sign their contracts, pose for photos with the organization and their teammates. Food will be provided. Last season we did this at Drive Shack.
- **Holiday Party:** Before our team goes on its Holiday Break, we will have a team gathering to celebrate the season. We will do a team gift exchange, enjoy time with each other off the ice and have a nice meal.
- **End of Season:** At the end of the year, the team will gather to celebrate the season.
- Other non-formal social events will be put together by our social committee and include hockey games, laser tag, movies, birthdays, etc.

## **DEDICATED PRIVATE U18 LOCKER ROOM**

The U18 AA team will have a dedicated locker room at the Factory. Our practice sessions and home games will be located in the same rink as our locker room to allow for easy access to the ice. The private locker room will be locked and each player will use a fingerprint scan to gain entry. Players will have access to the locker room while the Polar Ice House is open or when a coach is present. Our locker room will have individual locker stalls, branded for the Raptors and hope to serve as a club house or lounge to our U18 AA players.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Volunteerism teaches basic character foundations to kids and makes them feel more connected to the community and each other. Service promotes values that will last a lifetime including trustworthiness, respect, fairness, honesty, responsibility, citizenship and caring. We will have two community service days and one community showcase game where we will drive awareness for a non-profit during our hockey game.

## **GAME DAY ENVIRONMENT**

Game Day will be different and special. Our game day program will start with the player arrival. The locker room will have energy with music and a coaching staff that is excited to be there. After players get into their work-out gear, a detailed player warm-up will be conducted that will prepare our players both physically and mentally for the game. After warm, the coaching staff will reinforce our pre-game points of emphasis, conduct position meetings and work to make our players focused and ready to play. For home games, the team will decide on an entrance song and warm-up music. After some games, we'll conduct player interviews and post them to our social media outlets. The goal with our game day environment is to create a safe, focused, exciting and fun environment for hockey.

## **ONLINE PRESENCE**

The Raleigh Raptors U18 AA team will have a robust online presence and make use of the Raptors Website, Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. We will also use TeamSnap to help parents, coaches and players keep track of our practices, games and stats. From a social media perspective, we will use Twitter, Instagram, Facebook and TeamSnap to quickly communicate and remind families of game and practice schedules as well as facilitate game updates, highlights and photos to friends and family.

## **SENIOR NIGHT**

Our children are now young men who have spent over a decade training to become travel hockey players. From 6:00 am U8 skates to 10:00 pm U18 games, our kids have dedicated a significant amount of time and energy to the sport they love. This commitment is extraordinary and often goes unnoticed by their peers, classmates and friends, as hockey in North Carolina exists outside of the schools they attend. The Raptors feel it's important to recognize the dedication, passion and commitment our children have made to the sport. We will hold a special game to honor our graduating seniors (and their families) and commemorate their youth hockey experience.

## **SCHEDULE OVERVIEW**

The schedule is still a work in progress. At this time, here is what we think will be our month to month schedule and a proposed 'typical week.'

**June:** Tryouts, Uniform Fitting, Signing Party

**July:** Optional Shinny Skates

**August:** Parent Information Meeting, Pre-Season Training Camp

**September:** Practice, First Tournament, Potential Games

**October:** Practice, Games, Tournament Play

**November:** Practice, Games, Tournament Play, Community Service Project

**December:** Practice, Games, Non-Profit Showcase Game

**January:** Practice, Games, Tournament Play

**February:** Practice, Games, Tournament Play

**March to TBD:** Practice, CAHA, Nationals, Potential Games and Tournament, Senior Night, Season Ending Party

**Typical Week\*:** Wednesday, On-Ice Practice | Thursday \*\*, On- Ice Practice | Games on Weekends

\*Days and times are target only. We do not have confirmation of ice slots or days of the week yet

\*\* Optional for U18 AA based on program selection

## **PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

It really does take a village... In order to have this program be successful, we have to have everyone – players, coaches and parents – going in the same direction. We will have responsibilities for every parent from game video and stats to events and social media. Parents will be able to select their involvement level during our first Team Meeting.



# PROGRAM FEES

The Raleigh Raptors U18 AA Program has a corporate sponsor in order to keep things affordable while offering the most robust travel hockey, player and athlete development program in the market. The program has two pricing options and covers all hockey activities, social events, player development and tournaments.

Please ask Ed Levens about Financial Aid and Flexible Payment plans.

## **TEAM OPTION**

\$2,500.00 plus apparel package, includes 24 practices, games, tournaments and all other activities outlined in this overview.

## **PLAYER OPTION**

\$3,500.00 plus apparel package, includes 48 practices, games, tournaments and all other activities outlined in this overview.


## **APPAREL PACKAGE**

Travel is not included nor is hockey equipment, parent sponsored events and team required apparel. The apparel package with the Raleigh Raptors costs \$600.00 and includes:

- Game jerseys/socks
- Track suit jacket/pants
- Pant shell
- Player bag
- Workout shorts & shirt
- Helmet stickers
- Locker Room Nameplates
- Practice jersey/socks
- Hockey Gloves

If a player played within the Raleigh Raptors organization last season, a full apparel package may not be necessary as the player may already have much of the required items.

Please note if you are new to the Raptors and a graduating senior, we will give you a \$200.00 credit towards registration to offset equipment (helmet) and apparel costs.



# PAYMENT PLANS

## **TWO PAYMENT OPTIONS**

- Pay in Full at Signing
- Pay 1,000 at Signing and the remaining balance by August 20, 2021

## **APPAREL FEES**

- Apparel Fees due at Fitting Session, \$600.00
- \$200.00 discount for new Raptors that are graduating seniors

## **PAYEMNTS**

- Checks payable to Raptors Hockey LLC
- All payments made by credit card will be subject to an additional 3% fee





# CONTACT INFORMATION

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