



Raptors Hockey Club

2023-24 Squirt AA Program Guide

ORGANIZATION

Affiliation:

Raptors Hockey Club is a member of USA Hockey under the local affiliate Carolina Amateur Hockey Association (CAHA)

Memberships:

Carolinas Hockey League (CHL)

Carolina Hockey Alliance (AAA)

Organization Executives:

- Stan Misthios
- Ed Levens
- Pam Mitchell
- Richard Tooke



RAPTORS Hockey Club

Philosophy:

In just 5 seasons, Raptors Hockey Club has quickly emerged as the **“Organization of Culture”** for youth hockey in Raleigh, NC.

Raptors HC provides an environment that will encourage our Coaches and Team Managers to act with autonomy to nurture and develop guidelines that will cater to the needs of the specific players and families on their team.

Raptors HC will work with Player Development and Player Advancement as our primary goal and guiding principle. Families of the hockey community will continue to look to us to provide a positive, structured, supportive, competitive, safe, and fun environment for their kids – and we will do everything to accept, respect, flourish and deliver under these responsibilities that we take seriously.

Raptors HC will continue to prioritize providing hockey families with more ice time, more programming, and more accountability for lower registration fees than the other local hockey groups.



SQUIRT AA TEAM

Team Staff:

Head Coach – Brian Haaland

Team Manager – TBA

Asst Coach – Chad Kessler

Asst Coach – Dennis Berchulc

Asst Coach – Jason Hall

Team Roster:

Team will roster a total of 16 or 17 players.

(Either 9/6/1 or 10/5/2 or 9/6/2)

Competitive Level:

Squirt AA Locally

Squirt AA Outside of NC



SQUIRT AA 2023-24 Head Coach

Brian Haaland

The Raleigh Raptors welcome Brian to our Club to serve as the Head Coach for Squirt AA team, and to help the development of Raptors goaltenders.

Serving as USA Hockey's local Director of Goaltending Development for the past 8 years, Brian brings a vast hockey background to the Raptors Hockey Club.



Coach Brian's Background

Brian grew up in Minot, North Dakota playing youth hockey. He played 2 years of juniors in the United States Hockey League (USHL). He graduated from the University of Nebraska at Omaha with a Bachelors of Science in education with a coaching endorsement. He played 4 years of NCAA D1 hockey for the Mavericks. After graduation, he played 1 season as a professional goalie in the United Hockey League.

Brian moved to NC in 2004 to pursue a career in NASCAR. He spent 8.5 years as a tire changer and has been a pit crew coach for 20 years. He is currently the head coach at Joe Gibbs Racing, overseeing 8 pit crews. During the past 20 years, Brian has been fortunate to be a part of 5 NASCAR cup championships.

He started training goalies in Charlotte in 2008 and started Old School Goal School in 2011. Brian has worked with hundreds of goalies over the years. He was an assistant coach and goalie coach for the Charlotte Rush USPHL junior team for 5 years winning 3 National Championships with them. In 2016, he became the Goalie Development Coordinator for USA Hockey for North and South Carolina.

For the past 3 years, Brian has been coaching youth hockey. He is passionate about coaching and his love for kids and growing their love of hockey is always evident on the ice. He's looking forward to being a Raptor and having a great season!



HOME ICE

- The Raptors Hockey Club will once again contract its ice slots for consistency of home game times:
 - **Saturday's for 4 games.** Saturday home games during the 2022-23 season were 3:15pm & 4:45pm, 6:15pm & 7:45pm @ Factory Wake Forest, per contracted ice.
 - **Sunday's for 4 games.** Most Sunday home games during the 2022-23 season were 6:45am, 8:15am, 9:45am & 11:15am @ Factory Wake Forest, per contracted ice.
- Allotted Ice Time for Games : 75 & 90 min
- Minimum number of Home weekends : 6
 - Potential for adding a 7th home weekend as practice or games.



GAMES

The team will plan to play in the CHL, (possibility exists that it could switch to Independent) :

- 16 Games = CHL league games
- 8 Games = "Home & Home" exhibition matchups
- 16 Games = 4 Tournaments (potential for extra games)

2023-24 H&H Targets will be (some of which are already locked in) :

The St. James*

Carolina Rage

Queen City Royals**

Jr. Hurricanes**

Potomac Patriots

Triad Storm

Reston Raiders**

Charleston Jr. Stingrays*

Carolina Premier*

** Teams played in 2021-22 Season ** Teams played in 2022-23 Season*

Families should be prepared to make trips to some but not all the following locations:

D.C. Area

Charlotte, NC

Hershey, PA

Nashville, TN*

Detroit, MI*

Greer, SC

Pittsburgh, PA*

Charleston, SC

Rochester, NY*

South Bend, IN*

****Potential supplementary Carolina Alliance AAA tournament locations for some of our Raptors SQAA players.***

Total Games: 40-42, of which 18-22 will be games in Raleigh.



Extra AAA Tournament Opportunity



The Raleigh Raptors are a founding Member Club of the Carolina Alliance. This initiative is a joint effort of several CAHA Tier 2 Clubs to provide select players the opportunity to play 15-18 additional games at AAA tournaments.

Summer Tryout session to select players from the member hockey clubs that will play in 3 AAA tournaments to take place June 4-5 in Charlotte, NC.

**The fee for Carolina Alliance in 2022-23 was \$785 for 3 tournaments.*



ONCE THE PASSION FOR TRAINING HAS BEEN IGNITED... DREAMS CAN COME TRUE !!!



Here are some players that the Raptors Development Staff worked with when they were just kids...

Top Left Clockwise - Brent Burns, Trevor Daley, Daniel Carcillo, Tyler Seguin, Warren Foegele, John Tavares, Malcolm and PK Subban, Joshua Ho Sang, Michael Cammalleri, Michael Vernace, Anthony Nigro, Matthew Pelech, Daniel Girardi, Chris Terry.



ICE TIME & DEVELOPMENT

Pre-Season Team Training Camp:

- 6 Hours On Ice (3 days over full weekend in mid or late August)

On Team Ice Practice:

- 1 Hour Weekly (traditionally @ Factory Wake Forest, but could potentially be rotated)*
- 2022-23 Time Slot : Friday 5:00pm-6:00pm @ Raleigh IcePlex.
- 2023-24 Time Slot : Likely to be 6:15pm-7:15pm @ Raleigh IcePlex.

On Ice Development:

- 1 Hour Weekly, 2022-23 was Mon 6:15pm @ Factory Wake Forest (Skating/Agility/Puck)
- 1 Hour Weekly, 2022-23 was Thurs 6:00pm @ Factory Wake Forest (Shooting & Scoring)

Total On Ice for Team Practice & Development : 84 Hours!



Pre Season Training Camp

Will Take place in August 2023, featuring both ON and OFF ICE team building sessions daily :

• OFF ICE FEATURES

- Player Handbook
- Individual and Team Goal Setting
- Hockey System Implementation
- Personal Brand Statements
- Personal ABC's
- Concussion Symposium
- Nutrition Guidelines
- Fitness Evaluation
- Agility and Strength Work
- Team Lunch and/or dinner

• ON ICE FEATURES

- Hockey System Implementation
- Agility and Strength Work
- Player Evaluations
- PTH Hockey Instruction
- Power Skating
- Shooting and Scoring
- Puck Control
- Skating Treadmill
- Passing & Puck Movement
- Defensive Zone Coverage



EXTRA TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

The team will take full advantage of the Prime Time Hockey training facility in 2 ways:

- 8 90-min Team Training sessions for an additional 12 hours of training & development
- 1 bi-weekly 30min team shooting session in small groups following the teams on ice sessions that are at The Factory.*

**small group shooting sessions can be scheduled on any of the on-ice days the team prefers. The sessions will be a rotation of different players each week.*



SPECIALIZED EXTRA TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

ALL Raptors Squirt AA players will receive a complimentary semi-private session from Prime Time Hockey:

- Sessions will take place during the "Stick/Puck" or "Hockey Camp" ice times offered at Factory Ice House
- Sessions will be 60 minutes in length
 - *Families will be required to cover the cost for Stick/Puck or Hockey Camp Registration.*



THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Part of the Development Process for the Raptors Squirt AA Team will be to have an open line of communication with players and parents thru Individual Evaluations.

The coaching staff will conduct individual player evaluations 3 times during the hockey season:

- 1) Post Training Camp Evaluation. (Written & In Person)
- 2) Mid-Season Evaluation. (Written)
- 3) Final Evaluation at Season's End. (Written & In Person)



OUR COLORS



COMMUNITY SERVICE

In addition to developing our players on the ice, Raptors HC aims to have our players help to develop and improve parts of our local community.

It will be a goal to have our entire Squirt AA team to participate together in a minimum of 3 hours of Community Service.



During the Club's first 5 seasons, Raptors teams have created and delivered large care packages for U.S. Troops stationed overseas, filled Xmas Stockings for both a senior citizens home and kids that were impacted by Hurricane Florence, organized a food drives, and cleaned a local Creek. The Club has also participated in the JDRF One Walk for Type 1 Diabetes awareness and fundraising.



VALUE

We ENCOURAGE you to compare:

- 102 Total Hours of Training & Development.
- 102 Total Hours of Training & Development under the supervision of a Head Coach with over 30 years of experience working and directing advanced Hockey curriculums.
- The SQAA team will be the only group on the ice for team practice.
- 40+ Hockey Games.
- Set days and location for Home Games.

All for a Registration Fee of \$4,245

**Equipment & Apparel package for 2022-23 was \$515. An 'A La Cart' menu will be made available for returning Raptors that don't require entire package.*



Payment Options

There will be 4 options available for payment of registration fees.

All payments made by credit card will be subject to an additional 3% fee.

Option 1: Full Payment

- Full payment of \$4,195 upon signing
- \$50 discount from full fee of \$4,245

Option 3: 4 Payments

- \$1,245 upon signing
- \$1,100 June 16, 2023
- \$1,000 July 17, 2023
- \$900 August 18, 2023

Option 2: 3 Payments

- \$1,545 upon signing
- \$1,400 June 28, 2023
- \$1,300 August 16, 2023

Option 4: 5 Payments

- \$985 upon signing
- \$920 June 6, 2023
- \$840 July 2, 2023
- \$800 August 4, 2023
- \$700 August 31, 2023



EQUIPMENT PACKAGE

Included as part of the Raptors Squirt AA package:

- Personalized, high-quality Home and Away game jerseys.
- High quality Home and Away game socks.
- Personalized, high quality canvas hockey bag.
- High quality, 3-color pant shells.
- Track suits, jacket & pants.
- Pair of dry-fit athletic shorts.
- Dry-fit athletic tee shirt.
- Helmet Stickers

Optional equipment add on:

- Customized Raptors hockey gloves.



**Equipment & Apparel Package was \$515 in 22-23. It will be similar for 23-24.*

**Players must provide their own white helmet.*



#1 REASON TO BE A RAPTOR ???

Easy...!

Because after all of the ice time, the development, the culture, and the value - when it comes to the kids and our families...*we just know how to have the most fun and create the best memories !!!*



NOTES

