

ARCTIC FOXES HOCKEY – 24-25 WELCOME E-BLAST EMAILS
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24-25 WELCOME EMAIL FROM AFHA PRESIDENT ALICIA GENCO

Dear Arctic Foxes Family,

Welcome to the 2024-25 season! We are looking forward to another great year of hockey.

This year, we are using the StatZone app for our team management/communications. If you haven't done so already, please download the app from the GooglePlay (Android users) or App Store (iPhone users). You can also access your player's account online at <https://www.stat.zone>. Your player has already been assigned to their team, and you should see them listed along with the rest of your team roster. There you can update your contact and family info if needed. If you are having issues using StatZone, please email info@arcticfoxeshockey.org and we will do our best to help resolve the problem.

Also, just a reminder that USA Hockey has instituted a mandatory neck guard rule for all players ages 18 and under. This rule goes into effect starting August 1st, 2024. Neck guards have always been a requirement for playing in PAHL, but are now being mandated at the national level as well. More details can be found here: https://www.usahockey.com/news_article/show/1298379.

Lastly, if you're interested in being an assistant coach or manager this season, please fill out this application (which is also on the front page of our website). All those interested in either position must fill out this form.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdfTHftCLRJpizQjMIAhsGLA3GSzvIrxJ8cZYE0Fjrzm_zG8g/viewform

Please be on the lookout for more emails over the next couple of days regarding uniform fittings, Board nominations and our annual meeting.

See you at the rink!

Alicia Genco – AFHA President

Arctic Foxes Board of Directors

EMAIL REGARDING AVAILABLE AFHA BOARD POSITIONS

Dear Foxes Families,

We are seeking nominations for the Arctic Foxes Board of Directors. **To be eligible for office, a member in good standing must have held a volunteer position for at least one (1) year with the Foxes organization.** An active member may only be a candidate for one (1) position/office at a time. Board positions are for a 2-year term.

If you are interested in one of the open board positions (see list below) and meet the criteria in the descriptions below, please send an email to info@arcticfoxeshockey.org by **Wednesday, May 15th, 2024 with the following information:**

- Name
- Position interested in
- Brief bio sharing information about yourself and applicable experience for the position

Once the nomination period is closed, we will send out a list of the candidates with their bios for membership to review prior to voting. **Voting will take place via StatZone between 5/29/24 - 6/2/24 following our annual meeting, also to be held virtually, on Wednesday, May 29th, 2024.** Every family with a registered player for the 24-25 season will get one (1) vote. More details on the annual meeting and the voting process will be shared closer to the date.

The open positions for the 2024-25 season are:

Vice President (currently held by Mike Herdman): Works with the President to reach decisions for the betterment of the organization; handles contract with our uniform vendor K&B to coordinate fitting sessions, roster information and stock/resupply of tryout jerseys throughout the season; collaborates with social media director and newsletter producer to assure continuity of information posted on each platform; maintains the role of SafeSport Coordinator for the organization; assists with AFHA events including season kickoff party, banquet and tryouts; lends support to all board members as needed.

Secretary (currently held by Dave Thomas): Monitors/responds to main email ("info" email account) and phone number (Google voice); sends email message blasts to membership; takes meeting minutes at monthly board meetings; maintains minutes and sends out to Board and uploads to website; maintains coach/player/parent handbooks online; amends bylaws (after Board vote) as necessary; sets up StatZone rosters and takes care of occasional player changes; maintains our organization's website; assists with AFHA events including season kickoff party, banquet and tryouts.

Registrar (currently held by Marcie Stefanik): works closely with the MidAm registrar to finalize team rosters for the start of the season; completes USA Hockey roster changes as needed (before 12/31); creates tournament rosters; tracks and validates coaching credentials; tracks clearances for coaches, managers and other volunteers; assists with AFHA events including season kickoff party, banquet, etc.

Treasurer (currently held by Scott Sroka)*: Creates and maintains a yearly budget along with the timely payment of bills and collections/billing of player dues; works closely with fundraising coordinator and designated Foxes representatives for PNC Park, Acrisure Stadium and StarLake fundraising, along with direct communication with coordinators at those facilities to ensure families earned credits are calculated and applied to accounts properly; keeps account receivable; collects any expense receipts for reimbursement; completes annual 990 tax filing with IRS in a timely manner; presents a treasurer's report at every board meeting; assists with AFHA events including season kickoff party, banquet and tryouts.

***This position requires training/close work with the outgoing treasurer during the first season holding this office.**

Ice/referee/EMT Scheduler (currently held by Jack Urbanek)*: Works closely with RMU Director Dave Hanson to decide on ice needs for the season; divides ice times given into team practice slots; develops monthly practices schedules and posts them on StatZone for members; sets up skills session times with Skills Coordinator Coach Justin Kostosky, power skating times with Power Skating Coach Marianne Watkins and goalie session times with Goalie Coach J.S. Aubin; works closely with referee scheduler Jeff Pickering to assure we have referee coverage for every game; works closely with EMT company to assure we have EMT coverage for every game.

***This position requires training/close work with the outgoing scheduler during the first season holding this office.**

EMAIL REGARDING UNIFORM INFO FROM K&B OUTFITTERS

Hello Foxes,

Congratulations on your team placements, and Welcome (or, Welcome Back) to the Arctic Foxes! Now that tryouts are over and your teams are set, it's time to move on to the first order of business: getting our uniforms!

Our uniform and apparel supplier, K&B Outfitters, will be holding TWO sizing events at the RMU Island Sports Center in the coming days. **Those dates are Thursday May 9th, and Wednesday May 15th, from 6pm to 8pm on both days.**

Some important things to keep in mind regarding these sizing events:

- **These events are for sizing your items only.** No orders or payments will be taken at these times.
- If you are a returning player and keeping your current uniform items, or if you are absolutely certain of the sizes you need, there is no need to attend the sizing events. Simply place your order online.
- Players should bring their shoulder pads if they will be sizing for jerseys, and their hockey pants if they will be sizing for pant shells.
- You can use the sizing sheet (link to view: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cXUvuZCA789fIH1hQHLSb7rdYfn6nHYd/view>) to record your player's sizes. You will then place your orders individually online at https://www.kandboutfitters.com/store/c23/Arctic_Foxes.html.
- In addition to the core uniform items (jerseys, pant shells, socks, and warmups), you can also order other items (hats, shirts, hoodies, bags, and other products & accessories) at the same time. The core uniform items will be delivered to the RMU ISC in a bulk delivery closer to the start of the season, at which time your team manager will notify you for pick up. All other items will be broken out and shipped to you directly, or may be picked up in person at K&B.
- While no uniform orders will be taken at the sizing event, K&B will still have a few customized Foxes items (hats, gloves, and skate soakers) on hand for players to purchase and take with them.

VERY IMPORTANT! K&B Outfitters is also the uniform supplier for many of the other area organizations, and this is a very busy time for them. **In order to ensure that your uniform items are included in the club's bulk delivery and to receive them in time for the start of the season, orders must be placed by the cut-off date of Sunday, May 26th.** Orders placed after this date will not be processed until all other clubs have received their bulk deliveries, and you may not have your items in time for the start of the season.

Jersey Numbers: If you are a returning Foxes player and wish to keep your number from last season, that is still your number. New players and those returning players wishing to change numbers will provide K&B with five (5) number choices, ranked in order of preference. If your first preference is already occupied by someone on your team (or someone who could end up on your team in the future; more on that below), they will move on to your next preference until an unoccupied number is reached.

Jersey Numbers "At-Risk": Players can also designate a number that they are willing to take "at-risk". This means that if a player on a different team, but who could plausibly end up on your team in the future, already has that number, you can be issued the number but would have to relinquish it to that other player in the event that you are eventually placed on the same team.

Again, please make special note of the May 26th cut-off date for uniform ordering.

Thanks, and we're looking forward to seeing you at the rink. Let's Go Foxes!

-Mike Herdman

Vice President Arctic Foxes Hockey Association

vp@arcticfoxeshockey.org

EMAIL REGARDING ACISURE STADIUM ARAMARK FUNDRAISING

Hello Foxes Families!

We have two opportunities for volunteering this summer... so far. We do not have exact report times, but you will be notified as soon as we have more information. In the meantime, please make sure your RAMP certification is up to date and you have updated clearances.

Below are the new changes to the volunteer requirements and pay schedule made by Aramark Corporate:

1. All volunteers must be 18+
2. The pay structure will be commission based with a minimum guarantee. So if the minimum is \$165, but our percentage of sales is greater, the volunteers get the greater amount. That is a big change and could be really good for us.
 - Our group's total payout for an event will be calculated based on a percentage of food, alcohol, and non-alcoholic beverage sales. This means you have the opportunity to make **MORE** than the previous years' payout rates! The minimum guarantee for concerts and Steelers games is \$165 and for Pitt games it is \$130.
 - The commission rate will be based on net sales of the following. **Food and N/A beverages: 9%, Alcohol: 5.5%, Beer portables: 1.5%**

Right now, we have two important dates to start recruiting volunteers for:

1. **Kenny Chesney – June 1.**
2. **Liverpool FC vs. Real Betis Balompié - July 26.**

PLEASE NOTE: we do not have report times or any other information on these events YET but will be communicating it as soon as we hear anything!

OTHER REMINDERS (just as important) –

1. ALL volunteers must be RAMP certified. (we will provide a link to those that sign up and are not already certified)
2. All volunteers will be background checked electronically and checked on the Sex Offender Registry by Aramark.
3. IF you volunteer at PNC Park you will still need to sign up AGAIN for Acrisure stadium.

The google link to sign up is <https://forms.gle/VA6BNNTJS3L9pFtQA>

I look forward to seeing everyone at the stadium and please email me at Heinz@arcticfoxeshockey.org with any questions.

Warmly,

Jessica Spradley

Mike Fayad
AFHA Fundraising Coordinator
fundraising@arcticfoxeshockey.org

EMAIL REGARDING DURKIN SPORTS PERFORMANCE CAMP

Last Chance to Get better, save money, and help your organization!

Durkin Sports Performance is hosting a Speed and Skills Clinic at Baierl Ice Complex on June 17th – 21st. Learn from some of DSP's Best NCAA and Pro hockey players along with foxes own coach Justin Kostosky!

This year, we will teach each player what it takes to get to the next level and show them what skills they need to master if they truly want to advance their game on the ice!

The first half of each session, players will be separated by position to work on position specific skills!

These skills will help players create more offence, protect the puck, become a more powerful, efficient skater, and score more goals!

During the second half of each session, we bring both groups together to work on these skills in more game like situations through drills and small games.

These will give real life situations on how and when to use these skills in a game so they can understand how truly important they are to improve their performance and dominate on the ice!

Now the best part!

All Players in the Arctic Foxes organization that use code "FOXES50" at check out will not only receive \$50 off the price of the clinic but also give \$15 back to the Foxes organization! This will help bring costs down, get new training aids, and help you have a better, more successful season!

We have two clinics to pick from being the Middle School Speed and Skill Clinic (BY13 – BY10) from 12:10pm – 1:00pm and the High Clinic Speed and Skill Clinic (BY10 – BY06) from 1:10pm- 2:00pm.

To learn more and to sign up click the link below:

<https://www.durkinsportsp performance.com/on-ice-hockey-clinics>

This is the last chance to sign up! It's going to be a great week with a lot of fun and a lot of hard work along the way! Spots are going fast, and registration ends this Friday at 11:59pm! Don't miss out on what is going to be a great week!

Thank you so much! Talk to you soon!

Michael Durkin, CSCS, SSC, CPT, TPI