



# VOYAGEUR CUP

## HOCKEY COOPERATIVE

During the summer of 2009, in the land of L' Etoile Du Nord, play for the paddle in the Voyageur Cup – Summer Hockey Cooperative. This cooperative is meant to be a fun event through which kids can improve their skills, enhance friendships, and enjoy summer hockey in a challenging and rewarding environment. This program is also intended to allow parents to become more involved in their child's hockey development. There will be one session per week at Drake/SPA Arena on Wednesday night from 6:15 to 7:15 PM beginning June 16 through August 26. The intended participants are primarily U8 girls and C Mites/Mini-mites, maybe younger brother/sister/friends. Each child is asked to bring their last year(s) of Highland jerseys – blue and red, if possible. The total cost of the ice for the 11 sessions will be \$75.

The first half of the summer will focus on skills development with the majority of the 1 hour session devoted to basic skills that make for a better hockey player. During the second half of the summer, the time will be devoted to two 30 minute sessions. The first half will be devoted to skills development and the second half will feature ½ ice 4-on-4 and 3-on-3 hockey.

### **Skills Development**

During this session, the players will be broken down into 2 or 3 groups based on skill level. Each group will practice skills that are skill level appropriate, but challenging. Each player will be briefly tested at the beginning of the summer as well as at the end of the summer to measure progress. All groups will use similar drills, with the higher levels progressing at a quicker pace. The skills development methods will be developed from best practices observed in teaching hockey with a heavy emphasis on skating and stick handling in a "keep it moving" environment. The practices will be organized and outlined prior to each session and sent out to the parents with the drills and the skill development intent of the drill. Players will be given short homework assignment each week to improve their skills and fill the days of summer.

### **Voyageur Cup**

At the end of the first half of the camp, the players will be broken down into small teams to play a round robin tournament of 4-on-4 and 3-on-3 hockey. The teams will occasionally be rearranged to ensure that all players have the greatest opportunity to have the puck on their stick and have space to develop a confidence carrying the puck. There will be two game formats. First, no rules except put the puck in the net and second, Watkins Glen lane rules. At the end of the summer, the team or teams with the most points gets to hoist the paddle as winner of the Voyageur Cup.

If you are interested in playing, please send an e-mail to [mhoppe@bluewing.com](mailto:mhoppe@bluewing.com) or call (651) 699-1985.