



**2007 GIRLS' MINNKOTA DISTRICT
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CAMP
SELECTION PROCESS**



**GIRLS' ADVANCED 15 CAMP
(BORN IN 1992)**

**GIRLS' ADVANCED 16 CAMP
(BORN IN 1991)**

**GIRLS' ADVANCED 17/18 CAMP
(BORN IN 1990/1989)**

**Girls' USA Hockey/Minnkota District
National Development Camp Program Director:
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Participation by invitation only.

USA Hockey reserves the right to select At-Large players (from Minnkota or any other district of USA Hockey) who did not participate in the selection process.

Player Development Opportunities for Females

There are many talented female hockey players in Minnesota and the Dakotas. The Minnkota District of USA Hockey, in an effort to meet the needs of these players, offers programs for females ages 15-18 which include expanded participation and opportunities. Although primarily administered by Minnesota Hockey, the program is open to all Minnkota residents who are registered with USA Hockey. The Minnkota District includes Minnesota and the Dakotas. The Minnkota District/USA Hockey National Development Camp selection process is designed to identify the best players in each age group in the District. Once identified, these players will represent the Minnkota District at a National Camp sponsored by USA Hockey involving the best players from each of the USA Hockey Districts. These camps are for the purpose of identifying the top performers in the country for possible opportunities to represent the USA at advanced levels of National and International competition. Participation is by invitation only.

Program Fees

The National Development Camp tryout program costs a considerable amount of money to operate. Most of that money comes from Minnesota Hockey. We are a non-profit organization that depends on a \$10 registration fee from members to cover most expenses. Obviously we would like to be able to pay for all of the expenses involved in our programs, but at this time it is necessary to assess a fee to the tryout participants. The fees have been set on a cost basis with the total cost being divided by the total number of participants. Unlike some programs in the private sector, there is no profit margin built into the fees.

Expansion of Player Opportunities

The mission of the Minnesota Hockey Player Development Program is to provide opportunity to all players based on their particular level of skill and desire. From 8U Girls' programs to the Adult Leagues, we are obligated to our members to provide them with an enjoyable, rewarding, and challenging experience playing hockey. We continually search for new ways to achieve our mission. The National Development Camp program serves our most skilled female players. One might argue that we are spending too much time and energy on the select few at the expense of the majority. Those that excel are products of hard work, dedication, and good training. Can we ignore their achievements and disregard their needs?

In an effort to satisfy the needs of these players and provide them the opportunity to achieve even greater goals, we have expanded our program for females. The National Development Camps selection process will offer additional opportunities in hockey to 424 female players.

GIRLS NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CAMP TRYOUT

<p>Phase 1 March 23-25, 2007 Cost: \$75.00</p>

The 12 Minnesota Hockey Districts will be divided into 4 separate regions.

Each of these regions will hold a tryout to select players in three separate age categories:

Age 15 tryout (born in 1992)

Age 16 tryout (born in 1991)

Ages 17/18 tryout (born in 1990/1989)

Up to 40 players in the 17/18 age category and 34 players in the 15 and 16 age categories will be invited to participate in the Phase 1 tryout by invitation only. High school and amateur coaches will recommend players through a nomination and balloting process administered by Minnesota Hockey.

Districts will be grouped into the following regions:

* Districts TC, 2, and 8 - East Region (tryouts at Highland)

- * Districts 3, 4, and 6 - Southwest Region (tryouts at Edina)
- * Districts 5, 10, and 15 - Central Region (tryouts at Andover)
- * Districts 11, 1R, and 16 - North Region (tryouts at Bemidji)
- * North Dakota residents will tryout in Bemidji
- * South Dakota residents will tryout in Edina

Phase 1 will consist of a 3-day tryout process, including Friday, Saturday, and Sunday sessions. Players will be evaluated in each of four tryout sessions, which may include drills, scrimmages, or a combination of both. Players will receive a tryout jersey which they may keep. A team of 17 players including 9 forwards, 6 defense, and 2 goalies will be selected in each age category. Those teams will advance to the Phase 2 tryout. Players must attend the Phase 1 tryout which represents their home residence. Some players may be reassigned to an alternate tryout site due to numbers and position.

ALL CANDIDATES MUST COMPLETE APPLICATION FORMS AND PAY ALL APPROPRIATE FEES TO THE PHASE 1 GENERAL MANAGER FOR THEIR REGION PRIOR TO ANY ON-ICE PARTICIPATION. CANDIDATES MUST ATTEND ALL TRYOUT SESSIONS.

Phase 1 General Managers:

Central Region 16 and 17/18: Colleen Muske	763-753-2640
Central Region 15: Tito Elumba	651.336.8910
East Region 16 and 17/18: Connie MacRostie	651-645-6131
East Region 15: Greta Wedell	651-628-4944
North Region 16 and 17/18: Shane Veenker	218-751-5364
North Region 15: Stephanie Sustercich	
Southwest Region 16 and 17/18: Josephine Kleiber	952-944-3704
Southwest Region 15: Lesli Rauch	

Note: Do not contact your GM and ask for a tryout spot. The process of selecting candidates will be conducted through a coach nomination and balloting process only.

<p>Phase 2 April 13-15, 2007 Cost: \$100.00 Schwan's Super Rink</p>
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Teams from each of the 4 Regional tryout sites (Central, East, North and Southwest) will come together at one central tryout location at Schwan's Super Rink on April 13-15, 2007. The teams will compete in a festival format over the weekend, with a third place and championship game on Sunday.

Evaluators primarily made up of college coaches will observe the games each session. Following the festival, these evaluators will rank players in each age category (from any and all teams, regardless of team placement in festival) and then select the players who will be asked to represent the Minnkota District. These individuals will be invited to attend the USA Hockey Girls' National Camps in Lake Placid, or Rochester, New York; or the USA Hockey Girls' National 15 Camp in St. Cloud, MN. A list of selected players will be posted on the Minnesota Hockey website by April 22, 2007.

Players are selected as individuals to attend the camps in New York, but they are expected to travel as a group from Minnesota in order to assure ground transportation from the airport to the camps. Air and ground transportation will be arranged for all players by the Program Director. A chaperone from Minnesota will travel with the group. Players are selected as individuals to attend the USA Hockey

National 15 Camp at St. Cloud and will provide their own transportation to and from camp.

Players will be randomly drafted onto teams at the National Camps, and each team will have an assigned team leader who will stay with the team at all times.

2007 USA Hockey Girls' National Camp dates and locations:

17/18 Camp (for players born in 1989 and 1990) June 23 - 29, 2007 @ Lake Placid, NY
Players stay at the Olympic Training Center and skate at the Olympic Rink (8 teams)

16 Camp (for players born in 1991) July 7 - 13, 2007 @ Rochester, NY
Players stay in the dorms at Monroe Community College and skate at the ESL Centre (6 teams)

15 Camp (for players born in 1992) July 21-27, 2007 @ St. Cloud, MN
Players stay in the dorms at St. Cloud State and skate at the National Hockey Center (6 teams)

Parents may attend on-ice sessions at the camp, but please be aware the camp staff would prefer that you have little or no contact with your child while at camp. You will not be allowed to take your child from camp for any reason. The more time you spend communicating with your daughter, the less she is able to focus on the task at hand.

A word about selecting players...

The toughest assignment we face is the player evaluation process. As you know, "beauty is in the eye of the beholder" and that could result in a staff of evaluators each having a different opinion about the same player. Evaluating players is not an exact science. There is no perfect method that will assure selection of the best players because each person's opinion of what makes the best player may differ. Politics does not play any part in this decision-making process. We do understand the disappointment of being passed over for another player. It is a traumatic experience not only for these players and their families, but also for those administrators, coaches, and evaluators involved in the process. None of us gets a kick out of disappointing kids. The best we can do is to give the evaluation process our full attention.

If you are selected to participate in the National Camps, congratulations!

If not, we hope that you will do what all good athletes do: prepare, do all that you can to improve, and be ready for the next time opportunity knocks!