



## Welcome to the 2025-2026 U15A Rep Team Tryouts:

### Coaching Team

Head Coach: Mark Usher      Cell: (519)465-0454      Email: markushercoach@gmail.com

The remainder of the Coaching Team will be chosen following player selection.

### Commitment and Expectations

Participation in the WGHA high performance training program (HPTP) requires commitment and dedication on the part of coaches, players and families. It is expected that hockey will be prioritized over other extracurricular activities.

There may be more than 130 **ice times** including games, tournaments, practices and skill development sessions both on and off ice.

For more information on HPTP, please visit: [High Performance Training Program \(HPTP\) \(Waterloo Ravens Girls Hockey Association \)](#)

**PLEASE LET THE COACHING TEAM KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF YOU ARE NOT PREPARED AS A PLAYER TO MAKE THE COMMITMENT OR AS A PARENT TO HAVE YOUR DAUGHTER PLAY AT THE U15A LEVEL. IF YOU ARE ONLY AT TRYOUTS TO GET SKATING TIME, PLEASE LET US KNOW. ANY PLAYER NOT INTENDING TO PLAY FOR THE TEAM WILL BE ASKED NOT TO RETURN AFTER THE FIRST TRYOUT.**

### Tryouts

#### **Process**

During the tryout sessions, players will be evaluated on work ethic, hockey knowledge and individual skills. We are looking for strong work commitment, team players, leadership, positive attitude, creativity, and individuals with a well-disciplined approach to the game.

If your daughter is unable to attend a tryout session it is imperative that you contact the Head Coach immediately. Instances of absence will be assessed on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the Head Coach and Director, Representative Hockey.

**As a reminder**, the WGHA combined skill session is considered the first tryout. Coaches and evaluation staff for each of spring tryout team are present at these skill sessions for completing assessment of players. The skill session counts as 1 of the 2 minimum evaluation sessions afforded to WGHA players.

**Example: Registered for AA** - Tryout 1 - Skill Session, Tryout 2 - Intersquad, Released from AA to A - Tryout 1 - Skill session already completed, Tryout 2 - Intersquad - can be released.

**Example 2:** Starting at Tier other than AA - Combined skill session counts as Tryout 1 - can be released following first dedicated tryout for specific Tier as that will be Tryout #2.

## **Schedule**

Refer to the Tryout Schedule on the Ravens website ([Tryout Schedule \(Waterloo Ravens Girls Hockey Association\)](#)) for all tryouts including intrasquad and tryout exhibition games. Please check frequently as schedules are subject to change.

## **Imports**

The maximum number of Import Players permitted on each WGHA team is governed by the team's division level within WGHA and the team's divisional (age group) classification. Rules for import players are found on the Tryout Registration Information page on the WGHA website (Policy number MO-06-06).

## **Releases**

After the second tryout, we will be posting jersey numbers on the Ravens website of the players invited to return for the next tryout. The jersey number assigned at the first tryout will be the number posted.

If you wish to speak with the head coach after your daughter has been released, I, as Head Coach, will be happy to speak with you 24 hours after the release. We ask parents to be respectful of the task that the coaching and evaluation staff faces in selecting the final team.

## **Reminders (Coaches Comments)**

- Please arrive 30 - 45 minutes prior to ice time
- Players are to be dressed, ready to go on the ice 10 minutes before the scheduled ice time
- For exhibition games please arrive 60 minutes prior to the scheduled ice time
- Tryout jerseys are to be returned at the end of each tryout
- Please inform a member of the Coaching Team if your daughter is unable to attend a tryout or is withdrawing from the tryout process

## **Hockey Season Schedule**

- Hockey season can run from mid-August to mid-April
- Expect to be available for practices and games during the holiday season in December and during March break
- The Waterloo Ravens are members of the OWHL Southern Division
- The regular season game schedule will be communicated when finalized

## **Regular Season Tournaments**

(subject to change):

- |                             |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Oakville Harvest Classic  | September 2025                |
| • Clarington Applefest      | October 2025                  |
| • Waterloo Fall Challenge   | November 2025                 |
| • Whitby or Cambridge (TBD) | December 2025 or January 2026 |
| • Aurora Silverstick        | February 2026                 |

## **Post Season Qualifying Tournaments**

(subject to change):

- League Championships                      Late March 2026
- Provincial Championship                  Early April 2026

## **Cost**

- Team / program costs are expected to be approximately \$4400 per player.
- Additional costs may include but is not limited to:
  - Travel expenses
  - Off ice uniforms

## **Volunteer Expectations**

Volunteerism is an integral part of WGHA programming. In addition to team staff roles, parents/guardians of players selected to a WGHA Rep team are expected to volunteer their time at WGHA hosted tournaments during the season (4 - 6 hours per family at a minimum), as well as any other activities to support their team and the Association.

## **Parent/Player Meeting**

A Parent/Player meeting will be held between May 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>. It is imperative that at least one parent attend the meeting with your athlete. We will be reviewing and approving the team fees, reviewing the plans for the season, and filling important volunteer roles for our team.

If you have any questions, please feel free to speak with me, Scott Storey , Director Rep Hockey ([directorrep@waterlooravens.com](mailto:directorrep@waterlooravens.com)), or Rick Tokarz, Vice President ([vp@waterlooravens.com](mailto:vp@waterlooravens.com)) or Sandra Hanmer, President WGHA ([president@waterlooravens.com](mailto:president@waterlooravens.com)), before or after the try-out sessions.

**Best of luck to everyone in the tryout process!**

**Thank you for participating.**