

North St. Paul Girls TNT Update

6/27/08

Greetings TNT Parents,

I hope this communication finds you and your family doing well and enjoying the spring and summer months.

The primary purpose of this email is to provide you an update on:

- New Tartan Girls Director, Nate Smith
- What the plans are for the upcoming 08/09 TNT co-op season
- Anticipated common Questions and Answers for the 08/09 Season
- Current Tartan and North St. Paul numbers based on last year's registration.
- TNT Parent Focus Committee opportunity.

New Tartan Girls Director

I would like to welcome Nate Smith as the new Tartan Girls Director. Nate comes onboard with an extensive coaching background for 8U, 10U, Squirts and Peewees. He is married to Laura and they have three children: Melissa (1st year 12U), Aaron 15 and Ron 18. I look forward to partnering with Nate in creating a co-op environment that is fun, rewarding and memorable for the girls while developing their hockey and athletic abilities at a level to which they can contribute and grow.

Special thanks goes out to Scott Jahnke for the many hours he has put in over the past years to the Tartan Girls and TNT programs.

08/09 TNT Season

As parents, coaches and girls directors we are all aware the co-op did not run as smoothly as we would all have liked it to over the past two seasons. The TNT Co-Op frustrations were even greater for our Ice Schedulers, Registrars and Association Presidents.

During last season and over past months we have worked with our respective association presidents, ice schedulers and registrars to try and figure out how we can smooth out processes in the coming year. In the end we determined the best and only solution would be to have one association host all TNT girls hockey with Tartan being the host association. Here are some details:

- TAYHA would be the host association for all female youth hockey players currently in their respective boundaries. This is school district 622.

- All Tartan and NSP girls will register with TAYHA at fall sign ups.
- TAYHA base (Blue Book) rules and by-laws will be followed.
- Coach selection would be collaborative between TAYHA and NSP this season.
- TNT – Tartan-North St. Paul-Together will remain indefinitely. This includes team names, jerseys, gear and clothing.
- North St. Paul parents will need to meet TAYHA volunteer requirements the same as all parents who have players in TAYHA. They will not have to meet NSP volunteer requirements.

Question and Answer

Q:	How does this impact home games and practices?
A:	Ice time was purchased several months ago by both associations with NSP allocating ice for half of the projected co-op teams. We will work to have a mix of home games at Tartan and Polar. Practices should be mostly Tartan Main, Bubble and Harding.
Q:	Have the Tartan and NSP boards already approved this merger of NSP girls hockey into the Tartan association?
A:	No. I will present this to the board in our Wednesday, July 16 th meeting. Nate will present it to the Tartan board on Monday, July 14 th meeting.
Q:	What age levels will be included in this merger?
A:	U10, U12 and U14
Q:	I'm totally against this merger. What are my options?
A:	Send Steve Czech, Nate Smith and I an email detailing your concerns/objections prior to the July board meetings. We will forward to our respective board members for review. Attend the NSP July meeting and invite others who have the same or similar position as you do.
Q:	What are my options if I don't want to register with TAYHA?
A:	You will have to approach another association to see if they would accept your daughter into their association. You will need a waiver signed by the NSP association president, the receiving association president and D2.
Q:	Doesn't this have to be approved by District 2?
A:	Yes. Preliminary inquiries have found there are no District or Minnesota hockey rules or by-laws that would prevent this type of merger from occurring.
Q:	What about Spring, Fall and Summer clinics sponsored by Tartan and/or NSP?
A:	All TNT girls would be welcome to attend either association's clinic, at this time. Should there be subsidies provided by NSP, TNT girls would not be eligible.
Q:	Would NSP parent pay the same registration fees as Tartan parents?

A:	Yes. You will be an association member of TAYHA the same as members in the TAYHA boundaries.
Q:	Last year ice time allocated hours and team fees associated with the hours was a mess. How will ice time be allocated with this merger?
A:	Tartan allocates 57 hours for games/practices for 12U A and B teams and 50 hours for 10U A and B team. This is more ice for B's and a little less for A's in what is typical for NSP. Note: Half of game ice will be on other associations ice time so depending on total games, teams can expect to have additional game ice above and beyond allocated TNT ice.
Q:	Are Tartan registration fees higher or lower than NSP?
A:	Historically they have been lower.
Q:	I have additional questions/concerns that are not covered here. What can I do to have them addressed?
A:	Send an email to: Jim Krings james.krings@mckesson.com . I will answer to the best of my ability, find an answer or let you know we have not figured it out yet. Many tasks for next season such as coach selection, tryout format, etc. are dependent on the merger first being approved.

In Summary:

Our goal is to do what we truly feel is best for the girls, short term and long term while keeping association board members and parent sane. The majority of feedback we have received on the co-op is very positive, but the logistics and administrative tasks have been terrible. I completely agree with the feedback.

We welcome your questions, concerns and support in this latest TNT endeavor.

TNT Player Numbers for 08/09

	Projected	08/09				
	NSP Solo	Tartan Solo	Total			
8U	11	10	21			
10U	16	19	35			
12U	18	22	40			
14U	15	12	27			
	49	53	102			
	Goalies					
	NSP	Tartan				
10U	1	0?	Chapman	???		
12U	0	4	Straka	Hersom	Eggert	Carle

14U	1	0	Folkerts
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JK Thoughts:

10U – Too much for two teams without over rostering 10UB, not nearly enough for three. Work to do here.

12U – Same situation as last year. Really tough to get to three teams. Historically we have always strived to roster 15 skaters on “A” Team which leaves 10 – 11 skaters on two “B” teams. Without 2 - B teams we would be severely over rostered with one B team and potentially exceed the 20 player roster limit.

14U – Always tough to project. Numbers are good but expect the high schools to have an impact. Jim to work with NSP HS coach and Nate with Tartan HS coach to get a better idea of how many girls they would be looking at. Preliminary analysis suggests we should consider pursuing a co-op with at least one other association in order to have one full team and provide A and B levels.

TNT Parent Focus Committee Opportunity

Nate and I are looking to form a TNT Parent Focus Group. The group charter should include but not be limited to:

- Non-coaching parents. We want to have Mom’s involved.
- Ideas and implementation of ideas to enhance our TNT program.
- Assist Girls Directors with tasks that require a great deal of time and effort such as tryouts and tournament selection.
- Consult Girls Directors on their ideas and direction.
- Frequency of meetings will be as needed and determined at the first meeting.
- Select a Chair Person for the committee

Contact Information:

Jim Krings 651-770-1928

james.krings@mckesson.com

Nate Smith 612-558-4453

natesmith8@gmail.com