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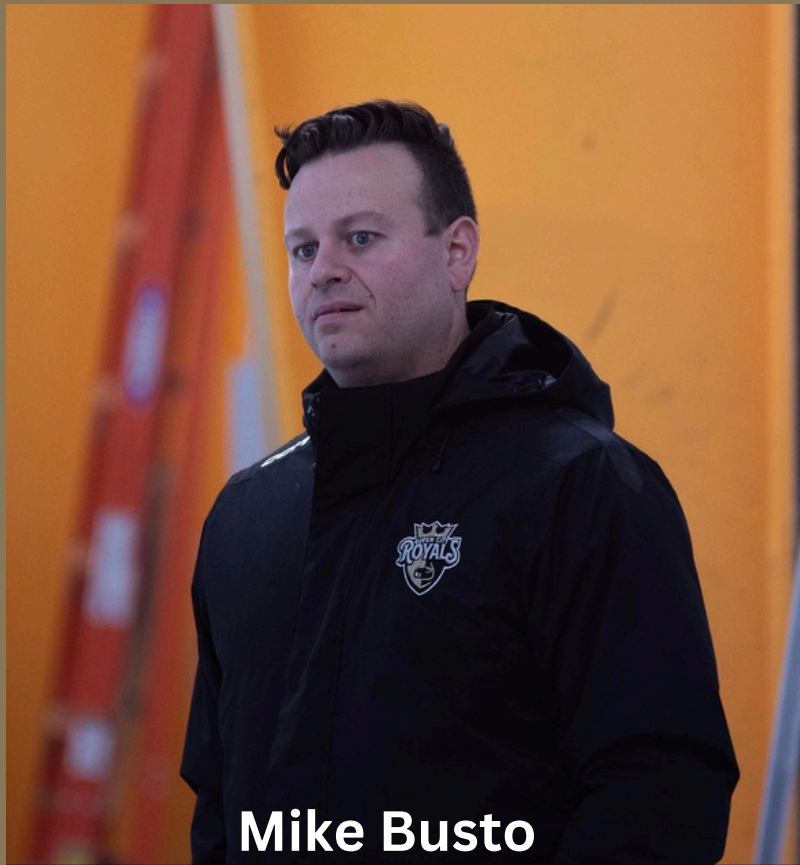
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**Mike Busto**

## **Hockey Director & 14UAAA Head Coach**

Mike is from Vancouver, Canada. He played 5 seasons in the WHL where he was a captain and all-star defenseman. Mike went on to sign a 3-year entry level contract in the NHL spending time with the New York Rangers and Montreal Canadiens organizations. Mike played 10 seasons of professional hockey across North America and Europe, including two years here in Charlotte for the Charlotte Checkers. After his playing career ended, he began coaching professionally in Asia for two seasons. Mike then went to coach at a Hockey Academy in Western Canada. Mike has a wealth of knowledge as a player and a coach and will continue to benefit our program as we take the next step to the Tier 1 level. Mike is also the Co-Founder and Head On-Ice instructor of the Southern Prospects Hockey Academy. This will be Mike's third season with the Royals.



2024-2025  
QUEEN CITY ROYALS



## Mission Statement

We create a positive environment where young athletes build confidence through the game of hockey. We foster a culture where the demands are physical, mental and at times emotional. We hold our athletes accountable to their coaches, teammates and ultimately themselves as we develop hockey players to be the best they can be on the ice and within the community.

## Vision Statement

The Queen City Royals will be the predominant youth hockey organization in the southeast. We will leverage our core values, top tier coaching and best facility in the area to develop youth talent that is unmatched by any other programs in the South. We will consistently compete for championship at all skill levels and produce high end players that will have the opportunity to play hockey at higher levels including the collegiate level and beyond.



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## Core Values



**Accountability-** Being responsible for our words, our actions and our results. We will represent the QCR logo on and off the ice.

**Character-** Taking it upon ourselves to do the right thing all the time, especially when no one is watching.

**Teamwork-** Working together to lift one another up in good times and more importantly during the tough times. By doing this we will be successful on the ice, regardless of the final score.

**Respect-** Respect our coaches by listening and putting forth our best effort. Respect our teammates by doing our part. Respect our opponent by giving them our best effort.

**Dedication-** Be on time, consistent and give our best effort: at home and at the rink. Take it upon ourselves to improve each and every-day.

**Humility-** Know that we are always learning and that we can be better tomorrow if we put in the effort.

**Work Ethic-** We will challenge one another day in and day out to work as hard as we can.





## Our Process

**8U Development-** Is our *“Intro to Travel”*, it allows our 8U players a small scale travel season. Through weekly development sessions our 8U players will work hard to develop proper fundamentals and skills all while creating memories with their teammates.



## Our Process

**10U & 12U-** The USA Hockey *“Learn to Train”* phase takes place during the ages of 10-12. These age levels are prime opportunities for players to develop fine motor skills and the RIGHT way to train. USA Hockey explains that what is learned during this time plays a major role in the rest of the athletes career. Emphasizing the importance of playing at the appropriate level regardless of letter (A/AA/AAA).



## Our Process

**14U-** Referenced as USA Hockey's ***"Train to Train"*** phase. Physical strength and athleticism are a main point of emphasis and at these age levels players should begin to piece a plan together for what they want out of the game of hockey (Pro, College, Juniors or just for fun). QCR strives to assist its players with all goals.





## Our Process

**16U & 18U-** Lastly the ***“Learn to Compete Phase”*** is designed for our players to sharpen their tools as hockey players. The overall athlete begins to shift their main focus from overall development to the competition level and playing within a structure.



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## **Tier 1 Tryouts (AAA)**

**April 20-21**

Tier 1 tryouts are open to all youth hockey players between 2006 to 2013 birth years. These players are looking for the most competitive hockey experience. Tier 1 tryouts are April 20th and 21st.

## **Tier 2 Tryouts (AA/A)**

**May 10-11**

Tier 2 tryouts are open to all players between 2006 to 2015 birth years. These players are looking for a competitive hockey experience with a lesser travel requirement than Tier 1. Tier 2 tryouts are May 10th and 11th.

## **Girls Tryouts**

**May 11**

The Girls tryouts will be open to girls between 2005 to 2015 birth years. These players are looking for the most competitive hockey experience in the Southeast. Tryouts will take place only on Saturday, May 11th.



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## What is Tier 1 and Tier 2?

**Tier 1 (AAA)** represents the highest level of competitive youth travel hockey. Players at this level typically demonstrate exceptional skills and commitment to the sport with aspirations of playing at higher levels.

**Tier 2** includes both AA and A levels with AA being the higher of the two. Players in Tier 2 hockey are still highly skilled and committed but may not possess the same level of skill or experience as those in Tier 1.



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## New Partnership for Tier 1 Players

Partnering with the Golden Bears for the upcoming season will undoubtedly enhance accessibility and development opportunities for Tier 1 players in the Raleigh/Triangle area. By providing weekly ice access in Raleigh, players won't have to travel as frequently to Charlotte, which can be both cost-effective and time-saving for our out-of-market players. The Queen City Royals will provide ice for all Charlotte-based 2008-2006 players participating in the Golden Bears Program this upcoming season. This partnership ensures that players in both regions will have ample access to ice. Additionally, having access to elite development will contribute to the growth and skill advancement of players participating in both programs.



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## 2024-2025 QUEEN CITY ROYALS



The Tier 1 Hockey Federation League is a USA Hockey Sanctioned Tier-1 Youth Hockey League that offers a highly competitive environment for Tier 1 and elite clubs nationwide, with over 290 AAA teams, ranging from 9U-18U age levels.

The Tier 1 Hockey Federation offers Competitive Scheduling for all teams in THF.

Queen City Royals 10UAA, 12UAAA, 14UAA, 15UAAA and 18UAAA teams will join the THF starting the 2024-2025 season.



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### New for 2024-2025

- High Performance Weekend for Specific Teams
- Partnering with Tier 1 Athletics for off-ice workouts
- More Practices and Skills sessions
- Jerseys are included



## 2024-2025 QUEEN CITY ROYALS



The National Girls Hockey League is dedicated to the promotion and growth of girls ice hockey programs across the nation and supports its member clubs' vision for player-focused development and progression to the next level. The NGHL comprise of league play, showcases and exposure clinics for Tier 1 and Tier 2 programs ages 10U through 19U. The Queen City Royals Girls 14UAA and Girls 16U/19UAA will play in the National Girls Hockey League.

The Southern Girls Hockey League provides the opportunity to girls in the South to compete against other girls in the South. The SGHL also gives girls the opportunity to grow their skills on and off the ice. The Queen City Royals Girls 14UA and Girls 16/19UA will play in the Southern Girls Hockey League.



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2024-2025  
QUEEN CITY ROYALS



## Commitment to Excellence

Our coaches have an extensive background, both playing and coaching at elite levels. (USHL, USPHL, NAHL, NCDC, WHL, NCAA Division 3, SPHL, ECHL,AHL, NHL, Professionally in Europe and Asia) We have the highest percentage of non-parent head coaches in the affiliate (CAHA).

Extreme Ice Center is ranked among the Top 20 Ice Arenas in North America and the top-ranked facility in the Southeast. We invest in top-of-the-line equipment to enhance the player experience and support optimal performance.

At QCR and Extreme Ice Center excellence is not just a goal-it's our standard. With experienced coaches at every level and world-class facilities we are dedicated to providing the ultimate hockey experience for players and families.



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## NEW COACH BIOGRAPHIES



### MARK LOSIER

Mark is from Sleepy Hollow, NY. Mark played club hockey at USF in Tampa. After college, he went on to be the Hockey Director and GM for the Tampa Bay Skating Academy. He is a level 3 USA Hockey Official. He also served as an NHL Off-Ice Official for the Tampa Bay Lightning for 15 years. Mark is currently a level 4 USA Hockey certified coach. He lived in Clearwater, FL before making the move to Charlotte. He has coached in the Charlotte area at CPH AAA, Carolina Rage AA and the Jr Checkers. Mark will be coaching 12UAA.

### KYRA MCDONALD

Kyra is from Connecticut before moving to Charlotte, playing her youth hockey days for the Charlotte Jr Checkers, Jr Canes, and Southern Flyers. She then went on to play 4 years at Northfield Mount Hermon prep school in Gill, MA before being recruited to play at Elmira College (D3) in upstate NY. Post college, she moved to London for 5 years before moving back to Charlotte and immediately wanting to be involved in hockey again. Kyra joined the coaching staff of the 16U QCR girls team midway through the 2023-2024 season. Kyra will be coaching Girls 14U.



## NEW COACH BIOGRAPHIES



### **ABBHEY MILLER**

Abbey is from Anoka, Minnesota. She played for Benilde-St. Margaret's High School, leading her team to Minnesota State Championship where she finished as a runner-up. Abbey continued her hockey career at Syracuse University where she earned the CHA Goaltending Trophy and Second Team All-Conference honors as a junior. During her junior year she recorded 9 shutouts to tie for second in the nation and set a new single-season shutout record in CHA and Syracuse history. Her nine shutouts were also a new career record in Syracuse history. Abbey moved to Charlotte in fall 2019 and has been involved with the program ever since. Abbey will be coaching Girls 10U.

### **TYLER MORIN**

Tyler is from Charleston, South Carolina. He has played in the NAPHL, T1EHL, EHL, USPHL Premier, NCDC and the FPHL. Tyler was an NAPHL Champion for the Esmark Stars. After Tyler's career ended, he started Palmetto Hockey Development and was an assistant coach and skills coach for Columbia Infantry at both the Elite and Premier Level. This will be Tyler's first season with the Queen City Royals and he will be the Head Coach of 14UA and Co-Head Coach of 16UAA.





## NEW COACH BIOGRAPHIES



### **RYAN SEAVY**

**Ryan is from Denver, Colorado. Ryan played several seasons of junior hockey in the NAHL, AJHL and EJHL including an all-star selection. Ryan played at Middlebury College where an injury would end his career. Ryan has coached at the youth, college, and professional levels. He has played and coached in multiple USA Hockey Tier 1 National Championships and NCAA Championship Tournaments. This will be Ryan's first season with the Queen City Royals and he will be coaching 16UAAA.**

# **TIER 1 PROGRAM**

## **12U AAA (2012-2013)**

**Coach: Sasha Makarov**

**League: Tier 1 Hockey Federation**

**Practice: 75+ Hours of Practice : 1 weekly 80min  
team practice, 1 weekly skill session (CLT & Raleigh)**

**High Performance Weekends (5)**

**Pre-Season Training Camp Weekend**

**Event Budget: 8 Home Games and 5 Tournaments**

**Season Cost: \$5,500**

## **14U AAA (2010-2011)**

**Coach: Mike Busto**

**League: Tier 1 Hockey Federation**

**Practice: 75+ Hours of Practice: 2 weekly team  
practices**

**High Performance Practice Weekends (5)**

**\*Optional Weekly Skills Training**

**Pre- Season Training Camp Weekend**

**Event Budget: 8 Home Games and 6 Tournaments**

**Season Cost: \$5,900**

*\*Practice schedule is subject to change, Schedule will be dependent on  
the geographic make-up of each team.*

## **16U AAA (2009)**

**Coach: Ryan Seavy**

**League: Tier 1 Hockey Federation**

**Practice: 75+ Hours of Practice: 2 weekly team practices**

**\*Optional Weekly Skills Training**

**Pre-Season Training Camp Weekend**

**High Performance Practice Weekends (5)**

**Event Budget: 8 Home Games and 6 Tournaments**

**Season Cost: \$5,900**

## **18U AAA (2006-2008)**

**Coach: Conrad “CJ” Thibault**

**League: Tier 1 Hockey Federation**

**Practice: 75+ Hours of Practice: 2 weekly team practices**

**\*Optional Weekly Skills Training**

**High Performance Practice Weekends (5)**

**Pre-Season Training Camp Weekend**

**Event Budget: 8 Home Games and 6 Tournaments**

**Season Cost: \$5,900**

*\*Practice schedule is subject to change. Schedule will be dependent on the geographic make-up of each team.*

# AAA/AA PROJECTED EVENTS

## 10U AA

Detroit (THF)

Hershey, PA (THF)

Pittsburgh, PA (THF)

## 12U AAA

Detroit (THF)

Hershey, PA (THF)

Pittsburgh, PA (THF)

Nashville, TN (TPH)

Pittsburgh, PA (SuperSeries)

## 13U AA

Detroit (THF)

Pittsburgh, PA (THF)

Chicago, IL (THF)

Pittsburgh, PA (SuperSeries)

## 14U AAA

Detroit (THF)

Pittsburgh, PA (THF)

Chicago, IL (THF)

Pittsburgh, PA (SuperSeries)

Nashville, TN (TPH)



# AAA/AA PROJECTED EVENTS

## 15U AAA

Pittsburgh, PA (THF)  
Philadelphia, PA (THF)  
Detroit (THF)  
Pittsburgh, PA (SuperSeries)  
Nashville, TN (TPH)

## 18U AAA

Pittsburgh, PA (THF)  
Philadelphia, PA (THF)  
Detroit (THF)  
Pittsburgh, PA (SuperSeries)  
Nashville, TN (TPH)

# **TIER 2 PROGRAM**

## **10U AA (2014-2015)**

**Coach: Casey Haines**

**League: Tier 1 Hockey Federation**

**Practice: 3 per week**

**Event Budget: 12 Home Games and 4 Tournaments**

**Season Cost: \$4,700**

## **12UAA (2012-2013)**

**Coach: Mark Losier**

**League: TBD**

**Practice: 3 per Week**

**Event Budget: 12 Home Games and 4 Tournaments**

**Season Cost: \$4,700**

# **TIER 2 AA PROGRAM**

## **14U AA (2011)**

**Coach: Nick Popp**

**League: Tier 1 Hockey Federation**

**Practice: 75+ Hours of Practice: 1 weekly 80min. team practice, and 1 weekly skill session**

**High Performance Practice Weekends (5)**

**Pre-Season Training Camp Weekend**

**Event Budget 8 Home Game and 5 Tournaments**

**Season Cost: \$5,500**

## **14U AA (2010-2011)**

**Coach: TBD**

**League: TBD**

**Practice: 2 Practices per Week**

**Event Budget: 12 Home Games and 4 Tournaments**

**Season Cost: \$5,000**

# **TIER 2 AA PROGRAM**

## **16U AA (2008-2009)**

**Coach: Tyler Morin & Nick Popp**

**League: TBD**

**Practice: 3 Practices per Week**

**Event Budget: 12 Home Games and 4 Tournaments**

**Season Cost: \$5,300**

## **18UAA (2006-2007)**

**Coach: CJ Thibault**

**League: TBD**

**Practice: 3 Practices per Week**

**Event Budget: 12 Home Games and 4 Tournaments**

**Season Cost: \$5,300**



# **TIER 2 A PROGRAM**

## **10U A (2014-2015)**

**Coach: Justin Culbertson**

**League: CHL**

**Practice: 2 per week and 1 bi-weekly**

**Event Budget: 12 Home Games and 3 Tournaments**

**Season Cost: \$4,200**

## **10U B (2014-2015)**

**Coach: TBD**

**League: CHL (All 10UB players will participate in Metro league practices)**

**Practice: 1 team practice per week**

**Event Budget: 10 Home Games and 3 Tournaments**

**Season Cost: \$3,300**

**\*8u Development Team information will be released in June**

# **TIER 2 A PROGRAM**

## **12U A (2012-2013)**

**Coach: Jos Banas**

**League: CHL**

**Practice: 2 per week and 1 bi-weekly**

**Event Budget: 12 Home Games and 3 Tournaments**

**Season Cost: \$4,200**

## **14A (2010-2011)**

**Coach: Tyler Morin**

**League: CHL**

**Practice: 2 per week and 1 bi-weekly**

**Event Budget: 12 Home Games and 4 Tournaments**

**Season Cost: \$4,500**

# **TIER 2 A PROGRAM**

## **16U A (2008-2009)**

**Coach: Ted Reilly**

**League: CHL**

**Practice: 2 per week and 1 bi-weekly**

**Event Budget: 12 Home Games and 4 Tournaments**

**Season Cost: \$4,500**

## **18U A (2006-2007)**

**Coach: Mike Hutton**

**League: CHL**

**Practice: 1 per week**

**Event Budget: 12 Home Games and 5 Tournaments**

**Season Cost: \$4,200**

# **GIRLS PROGRAM**

## **10U GIRLS**

**Coach: Abbey Miller**

**League: CGHL**

**Practice: 1 per week** (*Includes enrollment of the Metro Program*)

**Event Budget: 4 Home Games, 1 Tournament**

**Season Cost: \$3,500**

## **14UA GIRLS**

**Coach: Bobby Thomas**

**League: SGHL and CGHL**

**Practice: 2 Practices a Week**

**Event Budget: 4 Home Games**

**Season Cost: \$3,700**

## **14UAA GIRLS**

**Coach: Kyra McDonald**

**League: NGHL, Independent and National Bound**

**Practice: 1 90 minute practice, optional skills and**  
*weekend model*

**Event Budget: 4 Home Games and 2 Tournaments**

**Season Cost: \$4,400**



# **GIRLS PROGRAM**

## **16/19U A GIRLS**

**Coach: Bri Wood**

**League: SGHL and CGHL**

**Practice: 2 Practices a Week and *Weekend Model***

**Event Budget: 4 Home Games**

**Season Cost: \$3,700**

## **16/19U AA GIRLS**

**Coach: Tyler LaShomb**

**League: NGHL, Independent and National Bound**

**Practice: 1 90 minute practice, optional skills and *weekend model***

**Event Budget: 4 Home Games and 2 Tournament**

**Season Cost: \$4,400**



2024-2025  
QUEEN CITY ROYALS  
Goalie Development



**Lead Instructor: Bryan Holmberg**

NCAA D3 Westfield State

Walpole Express EHL

Goalie Coach 5+ Years

**Assistant Instructor: Hayden Ellsberry**

Goalie Development Sessions will take place on a weekly basis.



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**2024-2025**



## **Queen City Royals Apparel**

### **Included in Team Fees**

- Home and Away Game Jersey and Socks
- Practice Jerseys and Socks

### **Mandatory Team Apparel (not included in fees)**

- CCM Tracksuit
- Queen City Royals Hockey Bag

**All Apparel available at Redmond's  
Corner**



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**2024-2025**



# Queen City Royals Parent Night

**May 8th at 7 PM**



**Join Us on Zoom**

Contact Mike Busto with any questions at  
[mikeb@xicenter.com](mailto:mikeb@xicenter.com)



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