

# BIG BEAR TOURNAMENTS



© Bungalo Books 2000

John Christie

## 2011-2012 Big Bear Events



### Youth Hockey Tournaments

Denver, CO - Birmingham, AL  
Ann Arbor, MI - Indianapolis, IN  
Grand Rapids, MI - Chicago, IL  
St. Louis, MO - Tampa, FL  
Nashville, TN - Detroit, MI

This on-line brochure was created for your convenience while we update our website for the coming season. It's also a handy tool to throw in your bag for a quick reference at the rink. Please visit our website for a comprehensive overview of our programs.

P.O. Box 1213 Union Lake, MI 48387-1213  
[pucks@shootouthockey.com](mailto:pucks@shootouthockey.com)

**HOCKEY HOTLINE: 248.399.1694**

**WWW.SHOOTOUTHOCKEY.COM**

## WHAT'S NEW THIS SEASON

For the **2011-2012 season** we are pleased to announce several new options.

First and foremost Big Bear Tournaments will continue to offer great competition at an affordable price. On that note, we are pleased to announce that we have **reduced entry fees** in most venues and **revised our discounts to deliver the best value in youth hockey.**

Please see the discount section of this brochure or our website discount page for this season's **specials.**

Don't miss out on our **2<sup>nd</sup> road trip discount** which will also get your team a 50% discount off of the entry fee for your second road trip tournament. This is up to a \$440 value on your team's second tournament entry fee. See our website policy page for details.

We offer everything from B / house recreation, girls divisions in selected events to AAA tournaments.

For Clubs who wish to travel together, we can build an event around the teams you wish to enter. At Big Bear Hockey, we've got a tournament to suit your needs.

Look for **NHL game opportunities** on selected tournament weekends again this season in Detroit, Nashville, St. Louis, Tampa and possibly Chicago.

Look for **college game** opportunities, **OHL game** opportunities or games available with **NHL farm club teams** in many of our other venues.

## TOURNAMENT FEATURES at a glance

**USA Hockey** Sanctioned, **4 game** minimum, No curfews.

**Expanded team discounts.**

**Expanded coaches discount.**

**Canadian teams at par** for all events except the Carhartt Invitational.

Tournament **memento** for each player.

**Individual and team awards** for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place teams MVP award for both champion and finalist.

Accommodations and the **best rates** at 1<sup>st</sup> class hotels for out-of-town teams, including Marriott, Hilton, Hyatt, Embassy Suites, Sheraton, Doubletree, & many more.

## GAME COUNT & ENTRY FEES

**All Tournaments are a four game minimum with five games maximum.**

Teams may register by completing the application form found on the last page of this brochure or on the tournament page for each event. The application can be mailed with the full entry fee or a \$200.00 non-refundable deposit.

The balance of payment is due 45 days prior to each event. Within 30 days of the tournament start date the entire entry fee is non-refundable. Fees vary by event, with details available on each tournament page on our website.

## START & FINISH TIMES

Events beginning on a Friday and finishing on Sunday will begin at about 1:00 PM with finals completed by 6:00 PM on Sunday. Exceptions to these guidelines are Thanksgiving weekend events, when play will begin on Friday as early as necessary.

For our holiday weekend tournaments beginning on Saturday and finishing on Monday play may begin at approximately 7:00 AM on Saturday with finals completed by 5:00 PM on Monday. **Some teams may play Friday to alleviate schedule concerns.**

Generally younger aged teams will play earlier in the day. This may be affected by teams requesting an early start time to attend a local pro or college game in the area the weekend of the event.

## PLACEMENT

### AND USING THE TEAM EVALUATION FORM

It is our practice to place teams in divisions which provide the best competition for your team's skill level. To that end, we implemented our **team evaluation form**.

With the cooperation of each team, this form filled out accurately and honestly will enhance your experience, as the information contained in it along with your **game log** will allow our staff to place your team in the proper spot when received well in advance of the tournament. These forms are not necessary in early season and spring events.

Over the years we have had many conversations with team staff as to what they would like to accomplish at our tournaments. Some want the toughest competition to prepare for another future event, while others are interested in getting away as a group to build chemistry and just have a fun weekend. It doesn't hurt to let us know what your expectations are.

## AGE GROUPS & DIVISIONS

### *AGE GROUPS*

#### BY DIVISION AND BIRTH YEAR

USA Hockey age classifications will be used when applying tournament divisions. For the **2011-12** season they are:

Mite	2003 & younger	Squirt	2001 and 2002
Peewee	2000 & 1999	Bantam	1998 and 1997
Midget Minor	1996 & 1995	Midget Major	1994 and 1993

### *SKILL LEVELS*

Big Bear tournaments generally list the following skill levels:

#### **B - BB - A - AA & AAA**

**B (or House)** - teams chosen through a draft with the goal of creating equal skill level among teams within a club.

**BB (House)** - is a designation used in Michigan at the Midget Major house level only

**A (or B travel)** - generally the 2<sup>nd</sup> travel team chosen within a club. These teams are generally made up of minor aged players. When an A1 or A2 is designated, this is a further delineation within an age group of the skill continuum.

**AA** - the 1st travel team chosen within a club. These teams are usually made up of major aged players.

**AAA** - These teams are single birth year (i.e. 97, 98, 96 etc.) and represent the highest skill level within their age group.

**Note:** Michigan A teams should be aware that non Michigan A teams may include 2<sup>nd</sup> year players. For a detailed description of how this procedure occurs, please visit our website.

## ANN ARBOR, MI

Just 35 minutes west of Detroit, Ann Arbor tournaments feature teams from across the U.S. and Canada. As many of you have already found out, this is a great opportunity to take in a collegiate game and possibly skate a game at Yost Arena, home of the Wolverines.

Over the past several seasons many of our Ann Arbor events have expanded beyond the ice availability in the area and some divisions have been moved to the suburban Detroit area. This season, our Ann Arbor and Detroit event on MLK weekend will be a **Double Helix event** and will be combined into a single tournament and is noted below in **blue**. See the event web page for a detailed explanation of this event. All events will include Mite thru Midget/HS, House/B, BB, A, AA, & H.S.J.V. unless otherwise noted.

***The FlatWater*** ***October 7 - 9, 2011***

***The FireBolt*** ***December 2 - 4, 2011***

***The FireBird*** ***January 6 - 8, 2012***  
Mite B, Mite AA, Squirt A, Squirt AA. Peewee B, Peewee A, Bantam A, Bantam AA, Midget B – J.V., and Midget A & AA – H.S.

***The Big Chill*** ***January 14 - 16, 2012***  
This event will run Saturday through Monday (MLK day)

***The Ursa Minor*** ***February 18 - 20, 2012***  
This event will run Saturday through Monday (Presidents day)

***The Ring of Fire*** ***May 4 - 6, 2012***

## DETROIT, MI

Just 35 minutes east of Ann Arbor, our Detroit tournaments feature teams from across the U.S. and Canada. As many of you have already found out, this is a great opportunity to take in a Windsor Spitfire, Plymouth Whalers Jr. A game or make the short jaunt to Ann Arbor for the Michigan Wolverines. Depending on the season, you may also want to catch a Red Wings, Tigers or Pistons game.

This season, our Ann Arbor and Detroit event on MLK weekend will be a **Double Helix event** and will be combined into a single tournament and is noted below in **blue**. See the event web page for a detailed explanation of this event. All events will include Mite thru Midget/HS, House/B, BB, A, AA, & H.S.J.V. unless otherwise noted.

***The Ursa Major*** ***November 11 - 13, 2011***

***The Big Chill*** ***January 14 - 16, 2012***  
This event will run Saturday through Monday (MLK day)

***Carhartt Invitational*** ***January 14 - 16, 2012***  
This event will run Saturday through Monday (MLK day)  
Peewee AAA - 2001's - Squirt Minor AAA - 2002's  
and Mite AA 2003's.

***The Big Thaw*** ***March 2 - 4, 2012***

***The Thunderbird*** ***April 27 - 29, 2012***

***The Last Dance*** ***May 18 - 20, 2012***  
***plus Girls U12 - U14 - U16 - U19***

## NEW VENUES!!!

Coming soon.

## DENVER, CO

The event will take place at the Big Bear Arena. Additional arena(s) may be added.

**Rocky Mt Showdown** **February 18 - 20, 2012**  
This event will run Saturday through Monday (Presidents day)  
Mite thru Midget/H.S. A, AA & H.S.J.V.

## ST. LOUIS, MO

**Venues: St. Louis Mills Ice Zone and Hardees Iceplex.** Additional arena(s) may be added.

**The Gateway** **February 18 - 20, 2012**  
This event will run Saturday through Monday (Presidents day)  
Mite thru Midget/H.S. A, AA & H.S.J.V.

## NASHVILLE, TN

These events will take place at the Centennial Ice Arena in downtown Nashville with hotels within walking distance.

**The Fall Prep Showcase** **October 7 - 9, 2011**  
This event will run Friday through Sunday  
Squirt thru Bantam / H.S. Varsity and J. V. A

**The Smokey Mt. Shootout** **January 14 - 16, 2012**  
This event will run Saturday through Monday (MLK day)  
Mite thru Midget/H.S. A & AA

## BIRMINGHAM, AL

The event will take place at the Pelham Civic Ice Arena.

**The Bear** **September 2 - 4, 2011**  
Squirt thru Midget / H.S. B (house), A & AA

## TAMPA, FL

Tampa in the dead of winter, need we say more. **Venue: Ice Sports Forum.** Additional arena(s) may be added.

**The Palms** **February 18 - 20, 2012**  
This event will run Saturday through Monday (Presidents day)  
Mite thru Midget / H.S. A & AA

## INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Our Indy tournaments feature teams from across the U.S. and Canada playing in several of the finest arenas in Indianapolis, including the Pan Am, Carmel, and the Arctic Zone, Indy's newest arena.

Don't miss a trip downtown, a Junior Ice, Pacers or Colts game. Strolling through downtown and great dining will take up most of your time while away from the rink.

**The FireStorm** **Sept. 30 - October 2, 2011**  
Squirt thru Midget/H.S. A & AA

**The Indy Jones** **November 25 - 27, 2011**  
Squirt thru Midget/H.S. B, BB, A & AA including H.S.J.V.

**The Brickyard** **January 14 - 16, 2012**  
This event will run Saturday through Monday (MLK day)  
Squirt thru Midget/H.S. B, BB, A & AA including H.S.J.V.

**Gasoline Alley** **February 18 - 20, 2012**  
This event will run Saturday through Monday (Presidents day)  
Squirt thru Midget/H.S. B, BB, A & AA including H.S.J.V.

## AAA EVENTS

**Venue: Farmington Hill Civic Arena - Farmington, MI.** Additional arena(s) may be added.

**Carhartt Invitational** **January 14 - 16, 2012**  
This event will run Saturday through Monday (MLK day)  
Squirt Minor AAA 2002 Birth year - Squirt A 2002 Birth year and Mite AA 2003 Birth year.

## GRAND RAPIDS, MI

Michigan's 2<sup>nd</sup> largest city, Grand Rapids is a quiet mid-western town just a short ride to Lake Michigan. While in town you may want to enjoy the downtown area, visit the Gerald Ford Presidential Library or take in a Griffin's game (farm team of the Detroit Red Wings). **Venue:**

**Georgetown Arena;** recently voted the best in Michigan. Additional arena(s) may be added.

**Cold Fusion** **November 4 - 6, 2011**  
Mite thru Midget/H.S. B, BB, A & AA including H.S.J.V.

**The Avalanche** **January 27 - 29, 2012**  
Mite thru Midget/H.S. B, BB, A & AA including H.S.J.V.  
**plus Girls U12 - U14**

**The Killer Bees** **March 9 - 11, 2012**  
Mite thru Midget/H.S. & H.S.J.V. House Rec. B & BB only

## CHICAGO, IL

Our Chicago tournaments feature teams from across the U.S. and Canada playing in greater Chicago's finest arenas. The possibilities are endless in Chicago. Shopping, sporting events and great dining will take up most of your time while away from the rink.

**The Crossroads** **January 14 - 16, 2012**  
This event will run Saturday through Monday (MLK day)  
Mite thru Midget/H.S. B, A & AA (Bronze, Silver, Gold)  
**plus Girls U12 - U14**

**The Pond Rockets** **March 2 - 4, 2012**  
Mite thru Midget/H.S. B, A & AA (Bronze, Silver, Gold)

# 2011 - 2012 DISCOUNTS

FOR THE BEST VALUE IN YOUTH HOCKEY

For the best service, when applying for a discount, please fill in a **team discount form** and attach it to your application.

**Early Season Discount** – teams playing in any of the dates listed below will receive a **\$250 discount** on their next Big Bear Tournament during the **2011-12** season.

**September 2 - 4, 2011**                      **Birmingham, AL - The Bear**

**September 23 - 25, 2011**                      **Detroit, MI - The Early Bear**

**Sept. 30 - Oct. 2, 2011**                      **Indianapolis, IN - The FireStorm**

**October 7 - 9, 2011**                      **Ann Arbor, MI - The FlatWater**

**October 7 - 9, 2011**                      **Nashville, TN – Fall Prep Showcase**

This season we've implemented a **special discount** for selected venues and dates. Teams playing in **Tampa, FL, or Denver, CO in 2011-12** and a second Big Bear tournament in any other location, will receive a 50% discount off of the entry fee for their second tournament. .

**2 Road Trip Discount** - teams participating in 2 events on the road requiring a hotel stay for each will receive 50% off of their 2<sup>nd</sup> event. This is up to a **\$445 value** on your team's second tournament entry fee.

**Early Payment Discount** - If your full payment is received 90 prior to each event (entry and referee fee) you will receive an additional \$50.00 discount.

Please visit the discount link on our website and view the policy page for a detailed explanation of all discounts.

**Multi-tournament** - Individual teams in multiple events will receive discounts based on the number of tournaments in which they play:

**full entry fee on 1st event**                      **\$75 on 2nd event entry fee**  
**\$125 on 3rd event entry fee**                      **\$200 on 4th event entry fee**

**Multi-team / tournament** - clubs bringing multiple teams to any single tournament or any event on the same weekend in different cities will receive the following discounts:

**2 or 3 teams**                      **\$50 on entry fee**  
**4 or 5 teams**                      **\$75 on entry fee**  
**6 to 8 teams**                      **\$100 on entry fee with lodging**  
**9 teams & up**                      **\$125 on entry fee with lodging**

Please see our policies web page for addition details.

**Discount offers may not be combined or parlayed with the exception of the early payment discount. We will work with each team or club to determine the maximum discount that may be applied.**

## Coaches Discount

Each team that books a minimum of 14 rooms per night will receive 1 comped room for each night. This room may be assigned to a bus driver or team manager upon request. Hotels participating in this program will be designated with a **C** on our web site.

Also this season, each team booking 10 or more rooms per weekend per night that does not qualify for the 14 room per night discount above will receive 1 complimentary room for one night for a 2 night stay. Each team booking 10 or more rooms per weekend that does not qualify for the 14 room per night discount above will receive 2 complimentary room nights for a 3 night stay.

Hotels participating in this program will be designated with an **X** on our web site.

## TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION

Please complete and mail with entry fee payment via Check or Money Order to:  
Shootout Hockey – P.O. Box 1213 Union Lake, MI 48387-1213  
Phone 248.399.1694 - Fax 248.399.0330

### **Tournament Location (circle)**

Ann Arbor, MI   Birmingham, AL   Chicago, IL   Denver, CO   Detroit, MI  
St. Louis, MO   Tampa, FL   Grand Rapids, MI   Indianapolis, IN   Nashville, TN

**Team name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Tournament date:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Age group (circle)**

Mini-Mite   Mite   Squirt   Pee wee  
Bantam   U16   U18   Girls \_\_\_\_\_

### **Skill classification (circle)**

House/Rec   B   BB  
A   AA   AAA

### **Team's contact information - Manager**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State/Prov:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip/postal code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ph: (H)** \_\_\_\_\_ **(Cell):** \_\_\_\_\_ **(W)** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Coach**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State/Prov:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip/postal code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ph: (H)** \_\_\_\_\_ **(Cell):** \_\_\_\_\_ **(W)** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Preliminary team information**

**Home league:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Division:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(LCAHL, NIHL, CSDHL NWHL, etc.)      (AA, A, A1, A2, B, Gold, Silver, Bronze)

**Player birth years:** 19 / #      19 / #      20 / #  
& number in each

**2011-12 record:** W      L      T      **Goals for**      **Against**

Teams must be registered with USA Hockey or their IIHF affiliate and are required to submit a certified roster prior to the start of the tournament.

## HOTEL POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Big Bear Tournaments has secured room blocks for all out-of-town teams participating in our events. **As a condition of acceptance and participation in our tournaments, all teams utilizing hotel rooms, including local teams, must reserve rooms through Big Bear Tournaments by way of a rooming list and stay in an authorized hotel.**

Any team whose home arena is more than 70 miles from the tournament rink will be considered an out-of-town team and will be required to comply with our hotel policies and procedures. Out-of-town teams must utilize a minimum of 22 room nights during the tournament (i.e. 11 rooms per nights).

Please be aware that many of our partner hotels offer a **complimentary room**. Please see our discount programs for additional details.

**Please do not contact hotels directly, as team reservation must be made via a rooming list and cannot be accepted over the phone.** Upon registration, team contacts will receive rooming list forms and instructions to complete the reservation process. These forms are also available on our website.

Rooming list forms should be completed and returned to the Big Bear Tournament office **at least** 3 weeks prior to each event. Regardless of when room blocks are assigned, room blocks will be determined on a first come, first served basis with the exception of multiple teams from 1 club traveling together. These teams will be placed in a hotel that can accommodate the number of rooms needed.

We receive many requests from teams within the same organization wishing to stay in the same hotel. We make every effort to accommodate these requests and early receipt of completed room lists will help our efforts. Please keep in mind that many hotels are securing blocks 1 year in advance of the event, so don't be concerned about being too early.

Hotel selections will be listed on our website, which will include a picture, the nightly contracted rate, and a description.

Big Bear Tournaments offers an outstanding selection of hotels in each of our cities, chosen to provide first class comfort and service to our out-of-town guests.

Additional details, including rooming list forms, policies and procedures are available on our website at [www.shootouthockey.com](http://www.shootouthockey.com).