



Valley Forge Minutemen

Tier 1 AAA - Youth Hockey Program

2010-2011 Head Coaches

Mite Major

Head Coach: Mike Moeller

Mike has been coaching youth ice hockey in the Delaware Valley since 1989 and has been a staple at Center Ice for the last 6 years. Mike has coached numerous DVHL Championship teams (mite through midget) with the Valley Forge Colonials and Wissahickon youth programs. In the past, Mike coached the Little Flyers to a National Championship appearance in the early 90s. Moeller has also had success-coaching hockey at the scholastic level. Over the last decade, Coach Moeller has made High School League championship appearances with the Lower Merion program. He is a 1989 graduate of Norwich University located in Northfield, Vermont. Currently, Mike is a history teacher at Lower Merion High School in Ardmore, PA and serves as the Assistant Director of Hockey at Oaks Center Ice.

Coaching Philosophy: To create a positive learning environment for all players. Focus on fundamental skills, team work, character development and fun.

Squirt Minor 2001 Birth Year

Head Coach: Mike Mirack

Coming soon.

Squirt Major 2000 Birth Year

Head Coach: John Geverd

- ECHL with Richmond Renegades, Reading Royals, Dayton Bombers, and Evansville Icemen
- Babson College 2008 - NCAA Division 3
 - 4 year Varsity Team Player
 - Captain Junior and Senior seasons
 - Finalist for Top American Born D3 player senior year
 - Lawler Award winner junior season as referee's player of the year
- EJHL with New Hampshire Jr. Monarchs
- Lawrence Academy- Captain senior year

Coaching Philosophy: Teach Skills, Have Fun, Work Hard, Play as a Team and Love the Game. Squirt level is a critical learning period for all young players. I will place an emphasis on teaching and developing the basic skills required to grow as a well rounded hockey player. I feel strongly that skating is the most important basic skill that must be properly taught and developed in a young player. Practices will be high tempo and **FUN** focusing on skating, puck control, passing, shooting, puck protection, read/react, and timing. Players will be expected to compete hard with a respect for the opponent. My goal is to develop young players to the very best of my ability, be a positive role model and instill a love for the game.

Peewee Minor 1999 Birth Year

Head Coach: Toni Porkka

Born in Rauma, Finland, Toni played Professional Hockey for 18 years in North America and Europe. A former Defenseman, who brings Knowledge of the Game and a Passion for Teaching Young Athletes the Skills they need to Develop to become Better Players. Originally drafted by the Philadelphia Flyers in 1990, Toni played professionally until he retired in 2006. Currently, Toni is the Director of Player Development for Center Ice in Oaks, PA.

Coach Porkka's Professional Career:

- Member of Team Finland (National Team)
- Three years playing for the Hershey Bears of the AHL
- Six years playing for the Frankfurt Lions and the Cologne Sharks of the German Elite League
- Nine years playing for Lukko Rauma of the Finnish Elite League

Coaching Philosophy: Guide, teach, and develop all players. Skills and conditioning are the foundation for success! Repetition is everything!_Emphasize defensive responsibilities! Offensively, let players be creative but follow the plan! Demand commitment and energy! Show kids what it takes to get to a high level! **Youth hockey is all about development!!!**

Peewee Major 1998 Birth Year

Head Coach: Mark Schaeffer

- 15 years of coaching experience.
- Coached with Tier I teams Philadelphia Jr. Flyers & Valley Forge Minutemen in the AYHL. Squirt thru U16 Midget.
- Coached with Tier II teams Valley Forge Colonials, Hatfield Ice Dogs & Wintersport Royals in the DVHL. Mite, Peewee AA & Bantam AA.
- Coached with La Salle College High School Varsity Program.
- Won Regional Silver Sticks with Valley Forge Minutemen and placed 2nd in SS International Finals in 2000-01.
- Won AYHL League and Playoffs with Minutemen in 2000-2001.
- Appeared in Finals of Regional Silver Sticks with Philadelphia Jr. Flyers and appeared in Silver Sticks International Finals in 2006-2007.
- Won AYHL Playoffs with Philadelphia Jr. Flyers in 2007-2008.
- Placed 2nd in AYHL League and 2nd Atlantic District with Philadelphia Jr. Flyers in 2008-2009.
- Coached players who are currently playing in New England prep schools, USHL and EJHL Junior Leagues, as well as ACHA.
- Instructor for HST Hockey School.

Coaching Philosophy: I will work to build a team with strong skating skills and speed that attacks in all zones. Individual skills will continually be developed including skating, passing and puck control. This mixed with high-tempo team drills, over-all team awareness of positional play and responsibilities for the team, as well as the individuals, will result in success for now and the future.

Bantam Minor 1997 Birth Year

Head Coach: Tony Horacek

- **Coach Horacek's Professional playing career** started in Philadelphia where he was drafted in the 7th round by the Philadelphia Flyers and played for three seasons prior to being traded to the Chicago Black Hawks where he was part of a Stanley Cup runner up team that was beat out by the Pittsburgh Penguins. After a severe injury & subsequent recovery in Chicago, Horacek went on to play another 1200 games in the IHL & AHL with the Hershey Bears, Utah Grizzlies Indianapolis Ice & Cincinnati Cyclones.
- Spent three seasons as a player-coach with Utah Grizzlies, and Indianapolis Ice of the IHL. Horacek played his Junior Hockey in the WHL, starting at age sixteen with the Kelowna Wings, who became the Spokane Chiefs and finished his junior career with the Kamloops Blazers where he was part of a Memorial Cup Championship Team.
- Butch Goring, Ken Hitchcock, Mike Keenan, Brent Sutter, Paul Holmgren, Bob Bourne, Mike Eaves are just a few of the Hockey mentors Horacek has played for and coached/learned under.
Horacek brings extensive Hockey teaching experience & knowledge to the Minutemen program. He has an unbridled passion for teaching young athletes the Skills they need in order to take their game to the next level. Horacek has been intimately involved with teaching this great game to young future Hockey stars, when he was playing and upon his retirement. His commitment and energy are unmatched and any Hockey player would benefit from the experience that He will create.

Coaching Philosophy: Skill Development through an emphasis on Winning.....Measured growth through up tempo practice regiment....Constant Expectations...Athlete Accountability....Team first.....An opportunity for the Best 97's to be part of a great experience & play in a championship environment.

Bantam Major 1996 Birth Year

Head Coach: TBA

TBA prior to March 9th.

Midget 16U American

Head Coach: Robert Lewis

- Jr. Flyers Head Coach 1998 Birth Year. 2008-2010
 - Won the Warrior National Showcase Tournament 2008-2009
 - Made the AYHL League Playoffs placing 4th
- Jr. Flyers Head Coach 1996 Birth Year 2009-2010
- Jr. Flyers Head Coach 1994 Birth Year 2006-2009
 - Won bid to Silver Stick Nationals 2006-2007
 - Won AYHL League Playoffs 2007-2008
 - Won 5 Tier I Elite Tournaments including the Little Caesars/Victory Honda Showcase in Detroit.
 - Placed Second in The AYHL League and District 2008-2009
- Jr. Flyers Head Coach 1991 Birth Year 2005-2006
- Valley Forge Minutemen Head Coach 1993 Birth Year 2003-2005
- Valley Forge Minutemen Asst. Coach Jr. B 2003-2005
- Dallas Ice Hawks Mites-Midgets 1995-2002
 - 2 State Championships
- Current USA Hockey coaching level: Master
- Played Pro hockey with Columbus Chill (ECHL), Dallas Freeze & Fort Worth Fire (CHL) and the Fresno Falcons (WCHL). Played youth Hockey in Detroit with Little Caesars, Redford Royals and Compuware. Drafted into the NAHL, Jr. "A" league by Compuware.
- Have job experience as the following: Director of Hockey Operations 7 years. Head Coach Youth Hockey teams 17 yrs. **HST Hockey School Owner 15 yrs.** Director of Rink Operations 5 yrs.

Coaching Philosophy: I will guide and train each of my players to Play Hard, Play to Win and Play to Have Fun. I put my players first as we work together to develop the character and skills of the game. My goal is to afford each individual the best learning & the best information so that they can succeed as an individual and teammate as long as the play competitive hockey. We will learn as a team the speed, agility, concepts and attitude of a winning hockey player.

Midget 16U National

Head Coach: Toni Porkka

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Midget Major 18U

Head Coach: Robert Lewis

- Jr. Flyers Head Coach 1998 Birth Year. 2008-2010
 - Won the Warrior National Showcase Tournament 2008-2009
 - Made the AYHL League Playoffs placing 4th
- Jr. Flyers Head Coach 1996 Birth Year 2009-2010
- Jr. Flyers Head Coach 1994 Birth Year 2006-2009
 - Won bid to Silver Stick Nationals 2006-2007
 - Won AYHL League Playoffs 2007-2008
 - Won 5 Tier I Elite Tournaments including the Little Caesars/Victory Honda Showcase in Detroit.
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