



**JUNIOR
CANES**

#OneFamilyOneGoal

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SEPTEMBER 2026 | SEASON KICKOFF EDITION

THE CANES CURRENT

News, development and connection across our hockey community

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A MESSAGE FROM PHILIP TABOR

BUILDING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER

A season-opening focus on communication, value and the shared standards that move our organization forward.

“This organization belongs to our families, coaches and players. Together, we are building a bright future for our athletes and our organization.”



PHILIP TABOR

President, Carolina Junior Hurricanes

As President, my top priority this season is strengthening member communication and hearing directly from every family. The Board will prioritize survey feedback as we make decisions and continue delivering on our mission.

We are committed to developing young athletes through a culture of excellence, accountability and teamwork. Across AAA, AA, A and Super Eight, our goal is to meet players at the right competitive level while fostering skill advancement, sportsmanship and respect - on and off the ice.

We are also focused on keeping costs manageable. Corporate sponsorships, new fundraising opportunities and thoughtful partnerships can reduce expenses while increasing the overall value of the program.

My door is always open. If you see me at the rink, please introduce yourself, share an idea or tell me how your season is going. Thank you to every family, coach, manager and volunteer for your dedication.

LOOKING AHEAD

STRATEGIC EXPANSION FOR 2027-2028

We are excited to share two major upcoming initiatives that will significantly elevate our organization:



NEW NHL SHEET AT RALEIGH ICEPLEX

The addition of a new NHL-sized ice sheet will provide additional ice slots, allowing for better practice schedule times. The updated facility will also feature upgraded player locker rooms, expanded food and beverage options, and an improved experience for families.



PUCKMASTERS PARTNERSHIP IN ROLESVILLE

Puckmasters is opening a new location in Rolesville! Through an exclusive partnership with the Junior Canes, this facility will provide expanded opportunities for specialized player development, advanced coach training, and year-round skill progression.

OUR MISSION

Develop young athletes through a culture of excellence, accountability and teamwork - providing competitive opportunities at the right level and preparing players for success in hockey and in life.

EXCELLENCE

Raise the standard

ACCOUNTABILITY

Own the work

TEAMWORK

Grow together

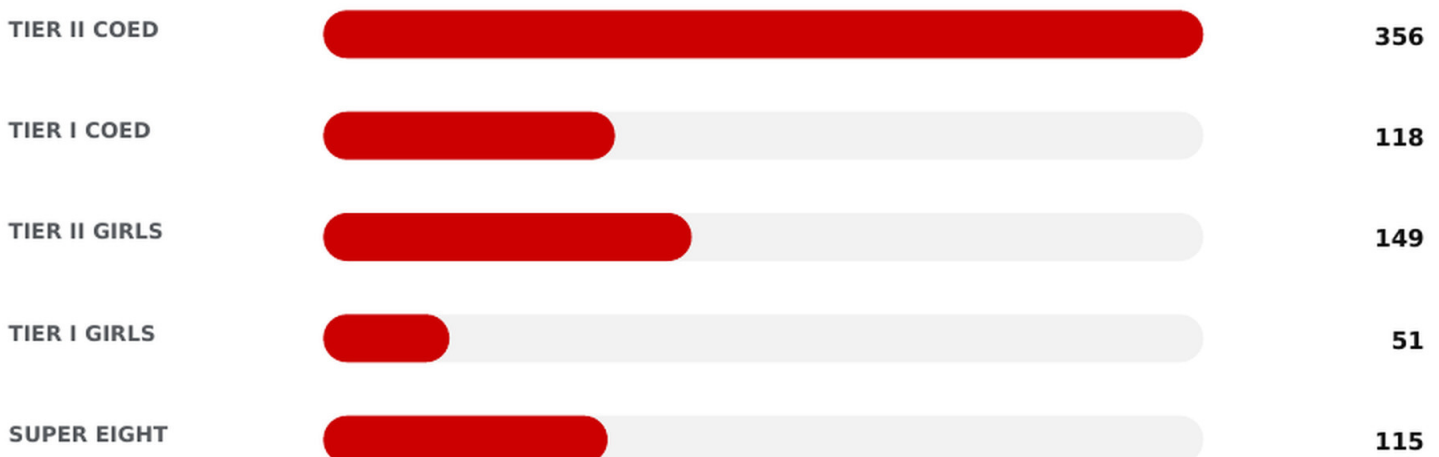
INVESTING IN OUR PLAYERS

PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

The numbers tell a story of scale. The strategy is to make that scale personal for every player.



ATHLETES BY PROGRAM



ONE ORGANIZATION. A COMPLETE DEVELOPMENT PATH.

40 travel teams (28 coed and 12 girls) plus 12 Super Eight teams give families a connected pathway from the first competitive shifts through national-level hockey. Every roster benefits from dedicated skating and goalie instruction.

DIRECTION FROM THE TOP

LEADERSHIP WITH A CLEAR LINE OF SIGHT

Board connection and executive leadership set priorities; program leaders translate them into the daily player experience.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PHILIP TABOR
PRESIDENT

IAN DURANT
VP OF FINANCE

BRIAN HERTEL
SECRETARY

SHANE WILLIS
HURRICANES REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD

BOBBY HATHAWAY
DIRECTOR AT LARGE

RAY IRVINE
DIRECTOR AT LARGE

JESSICA HUGHES
DIRECTOR AT LARGE

ED ROSEN
DIRECTOR AT LARGE

BOARD INITIATIVES

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

We are doubling down on our commitment to our athletes' growth — bringing in qualified, experienced coaches, securing optimal ice times, and maximizing puck touches so every player can develop their skills and confidence on the ice.

AFFORDABILITY

We know the cost of living and sports continues to rise. We are actively managing our budget and finding creative ways to keep membership costs as low and manageable as possible without sacrificing quality.

COMMUNICATION

Your voice matters. We're creating clearer channels for feedback so everyone feels heard — and working to better spotlight the achievements of our players and coaches at every level.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

JOCELYN LANGLOIS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FOCUS | Strategy + organizational leadership

STEVE HENLEY

SENIOR HOCKEY OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

FOCUS | Hockey operations + pathway

DANIELLE CORRIGAN-WEBSTER

PROGRAM OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

FOCUS | Scheduling + policies

KEY ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACTS

LORI PARRO
FINANCE DIRECTOR

JEAN ROGERS
ADMINISTRATOR & REGISTRAR

CONNOR WEBSTER
SOCIAL MEDIA & WEBSITE MANAGER

ASHLEY WILLIS
BOOKKEEPER

GENERAL INQUIRIES

info@juniorhurricanes.org | (919) 874-7474

HEAD COACHES + PROGRAM DIRECTORS

52 head coaches lead our rosters, supported by six Program Directors who align coaching, development, technology and access across the full Junior Canes experience. Meet the directors on the next page.

SPECIALISTS SERVING EVERY ROSTER

THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE PATH

Six Program Directors align coaching, development, technology and access across the full Junior Canes experience.

SARAH ANTONELLI-SWINGLE**GIRLS HOCKEY DIRECTOR****FOCUS | Girls and Women's Hockey Specialist**

Her biggest mission: building an elite girls hockey pathway right here in Raleigh. Head Coach, 16U AAA and 19U AAA Girls. Works with the NHL Hurricanes community connection team to build up girls hockey in our community. From Toledo, Ohio, Sarah played NCAA D3 women's hockey at Stevenson University.

JUSTIN BLASZAK**DIRECTOR OF SPORT TECHNOLOGY****FOCUS | Integrating video technology & analytics into player development, practice design, game management, and video feedback cycles**

Educating coaches and players on various platforms, including HUDL, InStat, Elite Prospects and IHS. Specializes in targeted video to help develop coaches and players. Also serves on our Player Development specialist staff, coaching skating, skills and habits within the club. Head Coach, 15U AAA. From Valley Village, California, Justin played ACHA D1 at College of the Canyons and 150 minor pro games in the FHL and SPHL.

LINCOLN FLAGG**DIRECTOR OF COACHING****FOCUS | Oversees hiring all coaches and placement on teams, including practice design, culture, and team standards**

Also helps with player and coach career pathways and matriculation. Born in Springfield, Mass., Lincoln played NCAA hockey at UMass before coaching at American International College and getting started in junior hockey with the New England Jr. Falcons. He is now the GM of the Jr. Canes NCDC and USPHL Premier teams, and a national champion as GM.

COLIN MULDOON**DIRECTOR OF PLAYER DEVELOPMENT****FOCUS | Mastering the fundamentals, and the habits and discipline it takes to succeed later in the sport**

Leads and designs all AAA Tier 1 Player Development training sessions, working with our PD skating and skills instructors to set standards and training environments across every session. From Red Lake Falls, Minn., Colin played NCAA D1 at Ferris State and 270 combined pro games in the ECHL and CHL.

RICH SHULMISTRA**DIRECTOR OF GOALIE DEVELOPMENT****FOCUS | Goaltending development**

Leads goaltending development for the club, working with our 10 goalie instructors to set standards, habits and structure on and off the ice, sharing his knowledge and expertise with every goalie in the program. From Sudbury, Ontario, Rich played NCAA D1 at Miami of Ohio and over 250 pro games across the NHL (New Jersey Devils), AHL, IHL and DEL.

TIM MCKEAG**SUPER EIGHT DIRECTOR****FOCUS | 8U foundational programming**

Building a passion and love of the sport along with fundamental skating, skills and gameplay.

Program Directors support 52 head coaches, 160+ assistant coaches and specialized development staff serving every Junior Canes roster.

HISTORIC MILESTONE

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

18U Black | 2026 USA Hockey Tier II 1A



A perfect 5-0 tournament run brought another national banner home to Raleigh - a reflection of long-term player development, team belief and the work of the entire Junior Canes community.

THE 2008 BIRTH YEAR

A POWERHOUSE GROUP

Both the co-ed and girls 2008 rosters stayed together locally and achieved significant success. The co-ed group won the National Championship, while the girls advanced to Nationals for three consecutive seasons.



CO-ED 2008

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

GIRLS 2008

3 STRAIGHT NATIONALS

ITALIA KELLEY | 2008 / 2027 GRAD - could reach Nationals for a fourth time if the 19U group advances again this season.

A PROGRAM ON THE RISE

BUILT HERE. GROWING HERE.

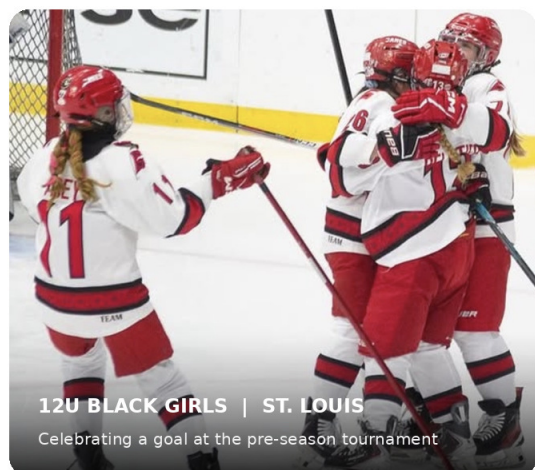
A decade of local collaboration has created a stronger pathway for girls to develop, compete and pursue their goals close to home.



200

TIER I + TIER II GIRLS ATHLETES

Three Tier I age groups, a broad Tier II structure and two girls-only Super Eight teams now create opportunities from the earliest stage of the pathway.



12U BLACK GIRLS | ST. LOUIS

Celebrating a goal at the pre-season tournament



HEARD ON THE ICED TEA PODCAST

GIRLS HOCKEY IS BOOMIN'

Girls Hockey Director Sarah Antonelli-Swingle recently appeared on the Iced Tea Podcast, where she described girls hockey as boomin'.

WATCH THE FULL EPISODE

Sarah Swingle | Girls' and Womens' Hockey Specialist for the Carolina Hurricanes

youtube.com/watch?v=D5_zH15hBzU

@icedtea.podcast #CARRYTHEFLAG

Clip and photo courtesy of Iced Tea Podcast (@icedtea.podcast)

THE GROWTH STORY

2015-16 LOCAL FOUNDATIONS

The Junior Canes and Carolina Eagles each supported multiple girls teams, building participation in parallel.

2019 ONE ORGANIZATION

A strategic merger unified local talent, expanded shared resources and strengthened competitive depth.

2020 TIER I ELEVATION

The Junior Canes became the first girls program in the Carolinas to earn Tier I AAA status.

3RD NATIONALS APPEARANCE

16U continued its sustained success with a third trip to USA Hockey Nationals.

THE PURPOSE

Create a complete local pathway so elite female players can keep progressing close to home.



WHERE THE PATH CAN LEAD

ONCE A CANE. ALWAYS A CANE.

From Raleigh to junior hockey, Division I leadership and a first professional contract - a story built through persistence.



UNION COLLEGE | CAPTAIN

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

NICK YOUNG

Junior Canes alumnus | Defense

Idaho Steelheads | ECHL | 2026-27

THE JOURNEY

Through every stop, Young kept earning the next opportunity - from the NAHL to Union's captaincy and professional hockey.

FIRST PRO CONTRACT | IDAHO STEELHEADS

THE ROAD TO PRO HOCKEY

01 ROOTS

Raleigh native and Junior Canes alumnus; represented the program at the 2014 Quebec International Pee-Wee Tournament.

02 THE GRIND

106 NAHL regular-season games; captained St. Cloud to a Central Division title and earned a 2022 Top Prospects selection.

03 LEADERSHIP

144 NCAA Division I games, a 123-game Ironman streak, four ECAC All-Academic selections and Union's captaincy.

04 PRO HOCKEY

Joined Idaho in March, recorded 2G-1A in 11 ECHL games and signed for the 2026-27 season.

THE TAKEAWAY | KEEP EARNING THE NEXT OPPORTUNITY.

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

CHARACTER COUNTS

The Player of the Month program recognizes the habits and leadership that make teammates and teams better. A big part of our Canes Culture is **Cat5 Hurricanes:**

Care. Compete. Consistency. Culture. Championship.

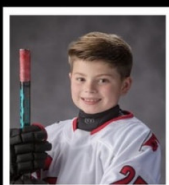
MORE THAN THE SCOREBOARD

Each head coach nominates one athlete who consistently models the Junior Canes culture. Recognition is shared across the newsletter and official social channels.

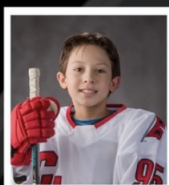
OUR JANUARY PLAYERS OF THE MONTH



CHARLIE JONES
10U BLACK



DILLON PRATO
10U RED



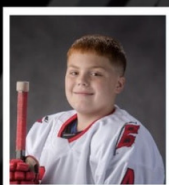
FOREST GOMEZ
10U WHITE



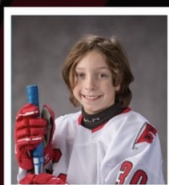
MARY RADZIEWICZ
GIRLS 10U BLACK



CAITLYN ZINSMASTER
GIRLS 10U RED



LUKE SCHEUERMAN
11U AAA



EVAN CLYNE
11U BLACK



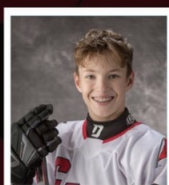
WILLIAM LLOYD
11U RED



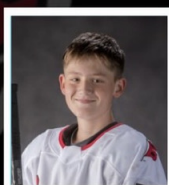
CJ SIZEMORE
12U AAA



LEXI OTTE
GIRLS 12U BLACK



BENNETT CARTER
13U AAA



MAX UNOCIC
13U BLACK

01

COMMITMENT

Invest fully in team goals.

02

HARD WORK

Compete, persist and never cut corners.

03

INTEGRITY

Respect the game, officials and opponents.

04

TEAMWORK

Put collective growth first.

05

PASSION

Bring energy, joy and enthusiasm.

MONTHLY CADENCE

1

COACH SUBMISSION

A specific example of character.

2

REVIEW

One selection from each team.

3

CELEBRATE

Newsletter and social recognition.

A LOOK BACK

LAST SEASON'S HONOREES

January 2026 Players of the Month

THE JUNIOR CANES WAY

FOUR PILLARS. ONE PLAYER.

The Junior Canes Long-Term Player Development Model connects purposeful training, education, technology and feedback across the player pathway.

SKILL ACQUISITION

High-tempo station circuits maximize movement, repetitions and puck touches.

POSITION-SPECIFIC

Dedicated skating, edge work and specialized goalie instruction.

ATHLETIC DEVELOPMENT

Off-ice work builds speed, strength, mobility and durability.

HOCKEY IQ

Small-area games sharpen decisions, awareness and confidence under pressure.

DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES

TOOLS THAT SUPPORT THE LONG-TERM PLAYER DEVELOPMENT MODEL

HIGH-TECH HOCKEY

Tools that turn reps, video and evaluation into purposeful feedback.



FILM + SYSTEMS



VIDEO + DATA



GOALIE PROCESSING



PLAYER EVALUATION



PLAYER VISIBILITY

RESOURCES FOR TODAY. DEVELOPMENT FOR TOMORROW.

EB ATHLETICS PARTNERSHIP

BUILT OFF THE ICE

Dedicated, age-appropriate strength and conditioning is a major Junior Canes investment in healthier, more prepared players.



ERIN BRATCHER

FOUNDER + HEAD COACH, EB ATHLETICS

A Raleigh native, former Division I basketball player and four-season professional in Germany, Bratcher pairs an athlete's perspective with a master's degree in exercise science and CSCS/RSCC credentials.

1X WEEKLY

**DEDICATED OFF-ICE TRAINING
FOR PLAYERS 13U+**



WHAT THE INVESTMENT DELIVERS

WEEKLY, 13U+

One dedicated off-ice training session each week for players 13U and older.

AT THE RINK

Training delivered in-house and at WCC/IcePlex gym locations.

CONNECTED PROGRAMMING

TeamBuildr supports workout delivery, athlete communication and development tracking.

READY TO PERFORM

Strength, movement quality and confidence away from the ice.



NHL PERFORMANCE CONTEXT

BILL BURNISTON | HURRICANES HEAD STRENGTH + CONDITIONING COACH

Burniston oversees assessment, programming, workload, recovery, injury prevention and nutrition at the NHL level - the same readiness priorities youth athletes learn to value.

RESOURCES SUPPORTING COACHES AND PLAYERS

COACH EDUCATION + PLAYER VISIBILITY

Coach education is a core part of the Junior Canes development model. These resources help coaches prepare purposeful practices and continue developing their craft.



ICE HOCKEY SYSTEMS

The Junior Hurricanes are continuing our partnership with Ice Hockey Systems for the 2026-27 season. IHS provides an extensive collection of age-specific resources for practice preparation, player development and coach education.

**Drills | Complete practice plans | Skill-development videos
Systems + tactics | Coaching clips | Off-ice exercises
Goalie resources | Courses + articles**

Coaches can also draw their own drills, build practice plans, organize content and share information with their teams. Resources organized by age group and topic give coaches another tool to prepare purposeful practices throughout the season.



THE COACHES SITE

Thanks to a generous donation from Rod Brind'Amour – head coach of the Carolina Hurricanes and a fellow Junior Hurricanes hockey parent – every head coach in our association will receive a complimentary full-season membership.

**Practice plans | Drills | Skill progressions
On-demand courses + clinics | Systems + tactics
Leadership content**

Head coaches will receive a separate invitation to activate their membership and join the Junior Hurricanes group. We're grateful to Rod for investing in our coaches and continued education.

JUNIOR CANES COACHING SEMINAR | SEPT. 1, 2026 | WCC | 6:30 PM

COACH ROD BRIND'AMOUR

Head Coach, Carolina Hurricanes

Coach Rod takes time to go over video during the Junior Canes Coaching Seminar. We're lucky to have Coach Rod as a leader and coaching resource in our Junior Canes community.



ELITE PROSPECTS

For players 13U and older, accurate digital information becomes increasingly important as athletes progress toward junior, prep and college hockey. Elite Prospects is available to all Junior Hurricanes teams at the 13U level and older as we enter the 2026-27 season of our partnership.

WHY ACCURATE PROFILES MATTER

The platform helps maintain accurate digital profiles containing team history, position, statistics and other relevant player details. As players move closer to junior, prep and college hockey, these profiles provide coaches, scouts and recruiters with an accessible record of development and playing history.

KEEPING INFORMATION CURRENT

Each eligible team will have a designated representative responsible for helping maintain accurate team rosters and player information throughout the season.

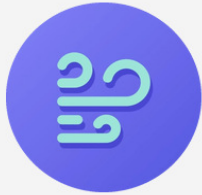
Together, these resources support better coaches, better-informed players and a stronger long-term development pathway.

**RESOURCES FOR TODAY. DEVELOPMENT FOR TOMORROW.
ACCURATE INFORMATION. STRONGER DEVELOPMENT PATHWAYS.**

MORE VALUE FOR FAMILIES

FUNDRAISE. VOLUNTEER. SUPPORT.

Teams have opportunities to support their season while following Junior Canes organizational policy.



FUNDRAISING PLATFORM

ZEFFY: ZERO-FEE FUNDRAISING

Zeffy has been a breakthrough for our club. With no platform fees, more of every donation stays with our teams and families, and tax receipts are organized and emailed directly to donors right after they give.

ZERO PLATFORM FEES

TAX RECEIPTS EMAILED TO DONORS

zeffy.com | @zeffyplatform



TEAM FUNDRAISING SPOTLIGHT

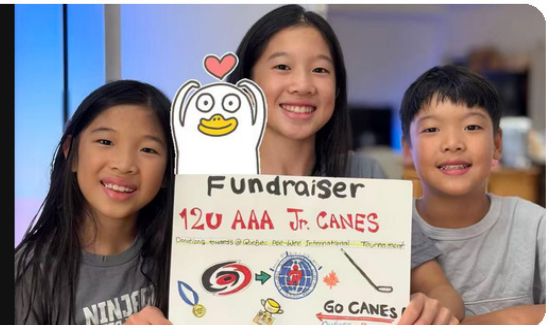
12U AAA CAR WASH

The 12U AAA team completed a successful car wash fundraiser to offset the costs of their end-of-season Quebec Tournament.

FAMILY SPOTLIGHT

THE CAO FAMILY

The Cao family with their handmade fundraiser sign, collecting donations toward the 12U AAA team's trip to the Quebec Pee-Wee International Tournament.



TEAM FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

Teams can pursue approved fundraising initiatives that may help support eligible team expenses, development opportunities and team experiences.

CONCESSION VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Families should consult their Team Manager or Program Director about concession and other volunteer opportunities that may be available to support their team.

ORGANIZATIONAL POLICY

Before beginning a fundraising activity, managers, coaches and families should review current Junior Canes guidance and ensure the activity follows organizational policy.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Connect with your Team Manager or Program Director to learn about current opportunities and policy.

THANK YOU

OUR TRYOUT SPONSORS

Thank you to the organizations that supported Junior Canes tryouts and helped make the event possible.

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS!

BLOOMIN' BLINDS*Wegmans***TERRAHAWK****919 SPINE**

SPONSOR OUR NEXT EVENT

Interested in supporting a future Junior Canes event? Sponsorship opportunities provide a way to connect with our hockey community while supporting the player and family experience.

BECOME A SPONSOR

info@juniorhurricanes.org | Select Potential Sponsor

YOUR VOICE SHAPES WHAT'S NEXT

Share feedback, celebrate a teammate or send us a story from your corner of the organization. Strong communication starts with an open line between the Board and our hockey families.

GENERAL INQUIRIES

info@juniorhurricanes.org
(919) 874-7474

KEEP UP WITH THE JUNIOR CANES ON SOCIAL

**INSTAGRAM**[@carolinajuniorcanes](https://www.instagram.com/carolinajuniorcanes)**YOUTUBE**[@CarolinaJuniorHurricanes](https://www.youtube.com/CarolinaJuniorHurricanes)**X**[@JuniorCanes](https://twitter.com/JuniorCanes)

FOLLOW THE SEASON | SHARE THE STORIES | #CARRYTHEFLAG