Welcome to the Blyth Raiders U16 AA Junior Varsity Team

Where Championship Hockey Meets Elite Development

If you're looking for a serious, structured, and competitive hockey experience for your child—you've found it.

The Blyth Raiders U16 AA Junior Varsity team is a high-performance program built for 2010 and 2011-born players who are ready to take their game to the next level. This is more than just a team—it's a developmental platform grounded in elite coaching, cutting-edge training, and a culture of accountability, discipline, and growth.

Proven Success

Our most recent Junior Varsity team finished 1st place in Tier 1 of the Western New York High School Club Hockey League (WNYHSCHL), outperforming top competition from both sides of the border. Our coaching staff, performance standards, and winning mindset have built a program that delivers results and develops talent.

Take Advantage of New OMHA Residency Rules

The landscape of Ontario hockey is shifting. With recent OMHA residency and boundary rule changes, teams are now able to recruit players outside their traditional home zones. While that might sound exciting, it also introduces risk: players waiting for tryouts with their local association may be unexpectedly cut, left without a team or forced into late-season options.

At Blyth, we offer a **secure and elite alternative**:

- No uncertainty—players selected know where they stand
- Guaranteed competitive play and elite development
- Proven coaching leadership and track record of success

This is your chance to take control of your child's hockey future in an environment focused on progress, performance, and long-term potential.

What Sets Us Apart

- A structured 4-day training schedule every week (skills, systems, shooting, strength)
- Leadership from Head Coach Scott Wilson, who transformed the Blyth Bruins from last place to champions mid-season 2023-2024

- Access to NHL, OHL, and Olympic-level development coaches (bios and links below)
- Entry into top-tier AA tournaments, including plans for a destination showcase in Europe or Florida
- A player-first culture built around work ethic, character, and mentorship

Secure Your Spot. Build Your Future.

Whether your child is chasing a Junior A, NCAA, or OHL dream—or simply wants to become the best hockey player they can be—the **Blyth Raiders U16 AA Junior Varsity team** is the **right choice at the right time**.

Tryouts – Take the Next Step in Your Hockey Journey

💥 If You're Born in 2010 or 2011 – This Is Your Shot

We're looking for **dedicated**, **coachable**, **and driven players** born in **2010 or 2011** who are ready to compete at the **U16 AA Junior Varsity level**. Whether you've played **Single A, AA**, **or AAA**, if you have the passion and drive to improve—**you belong at our tryouts**.

There's nothing to lose and everything to gain.

Many of our top players in past seasons came from Single A programs, and with the right mindset and development structure, they've gone on to dominate at higher levels.

77 2024 Tryout Dates

- Saturday, April 12 7:15 PM to 8:15 PM
- Saturday, April 19 3:15 PM to 4:15 PM
- Tuesday, April 22 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Location:

Wave Twin Rinks
1179 Northside Road, Burlington, ON

Cost:

\$75 for all three sessions (\$25 per skate)

Register Online →

What to Expect

- High-tempo drills led by Head Coach Scott Wilson
- Skill evaluations, compete-level assessments, and hockey IQ reads
- Real-time feedback from coaching staff
- A chance to join one of the most development-focused programs in Ontario

🗣 A Message to Players & Parents

"We don't care where you've played before. We care about where you're going."

- Coach Scott Wilson

If your child loves the game, works hard, and wants more from their hockey experience—this tryout is for them. Don't let past labels or old boundaries hold them back. The future starts with showing up.

League & Rink Overview

Compete Across Elite Arenas in One of North America's Most Competitive High School Leagues

The **Blyth Raiders U16 AA Junior Varsity team** proudly competes in the prestigious <u>Western New York High School Club Hockey League (WNYHSCHL)</u>. This is a well-established, cross-border league that brings together the **top school-based hockey talent** from across the region.

Our 2023–2024 Raiders team finished **1st place in Tier 1**, proving we're not just here to participate—we're here to compete.

Ø League Highlights

- Three-tiered system (Tier 1, 2, and 3) ensures competitive balance
- Junior Varsity and Varsity age divisions
- Focus on sportsmanship, development, and competition
- League sanctioned under the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU)
- Cross-border structure introduces players to diverse opponents and play styles

Where We Play: Rinks That Shape Greatness

As part of the WNYHSCHL and our cross-border schedule, the Blyth Raiders will play and travel to a variety of excellent facilities—each offering a unique hockey experience and atmosphere. Games are held on both the Canadian and U.S. side of the border.

Ontario Arenas

- Wave Twin Rinks 1179 Northside Road, Burlington, ON
 Our primary practice and development facility with two full-size rinks and professional-grade amenities.
 - wavesports.ca
- Gale Centre 5152 Thorold Stone Rd., Niagara Falls, ON
 A world-class, multi-pad facility used by international tournaments and OHL teams.
 Some of our reciprocal Canadian home games are played here.

New York State Arenas (WNYHSCHL)

- **Buffalo State Ice Arena** *Buffalo, NY*Located on the Buffalo State University campus, this facility hosts a wide array of high school and collegiate games.
- Cattaraugus Community Center Irving, NY
 A modern, full-sized rink serving as a central venue for games in southern Western New York.

- Cazenovia Ice Rink Buffalo, NY
 - Located in historic Cazenovia Park, this rink provides an authentic high-school hockey atmosphere.
- Cheektowaga Recreation Center Cheektowaga, NY
 A well-maintained rink known for high school games and local tournament events.
- Leisure Rinks West Seneca, NY
 A popular dual-surface facility used for both league play and high-end youth tournaments.
- Hockey Outlet Ice Complex North Tonawanda, NY
 Known for fast ice and competitive energy, this rink is a player favorite.
- Northwest Arena Jamestown, NY
 A large facility offering two rinks and modern amenities—perfect for showcase weekends.
- Classic Rink East Aurora, NY
 A community-loved rink with a rustic charm and rich hockey heritage.
- Depew Ice Pavilion Depew, NY
 A busy youth hockey hub that regularly hosts WNYHSCHL and AAU games.

A Unique Cross-Border Hockey Experience

This mix of Ontario and New York State rinks provides our players with exposure to **different ice surfaces**, **game-day environments**, **and regional competition styles**. It also creates a **well-rounded hockey schedule**—balancing home practices with meaningful away games.

Whether in Burlington, Niagara Falls, Buffalo, or Jamestown, your child will experience what it's like to compete in **one of North America's most dynamic high school hockey circuits**.

Training & Development Model

Developing Hockey Players the Right Way—On and Off the Ice

At the **Blyth Raiders U16 AA Junior Varsity team**, we believe that **great teams are built in practice**, **not just in games**. Our program delivers a **comprehensive**, **high-performance**

training model designed to help players grow in every dimension of their game: technically, physically, mentally, and tactically.

This is a development-first environment with the goal of turning **potential into performance**.

77 Weekly Training Schedule

Our players benefit from **four structured sessions every week**, with a unique focus on total player development:

Day	Session Type	Location
Tuesday	Skill Development Practice	Wave Twin Rinks (Burlington)
Thursday	Team Systems Practice	Niagara Region (rotating rinks)
Friday	Shooting Technique Session	Wave Twin Rinks (Burlington)
Friday	Strength & Conditioning	Limitless Training Systems (Burlington)

This schedule ensures players are improving **every week**, with an ideal balance between technical reps, team play, and off-ice athletic development.

Our Development Philosophy

We go beyond the basics. Every training block is designed to challenge our players mentally and physically. We focus on:

- Positional IQ and game awareness
- First-touch puck control

- Shooting under pressure
- Small-area decision-making
- Core strength, speed, and injury prevention

This isn't just conditioning or drills—it's a curriculum tailored to **help players make better** decisions in real-time game situations.

World-Class Development Staff

Our on-ice sessions are powered by some of the most respected names in Canadian and international hockey. While **Head Coach Scott Wilson** leads team systems and game-day strategy, our **development specialists** focus entirely on skill mastery:

- <u>Cory Conacher</u> 203-game NHL veteran, known for his elite hockey IQ and compete level
- Nicholas Rotondi Director of Hockey Operations, Georgetown Raiders Jr. A
- Dino Felicetti Olympian for Team Italy, 6x World Championships
- Jarret Reid OHL First-Round Pick, youth development leader
 - **Note:** Our development coaches work exclusively during practices and training sessions. **They do not coach games**, allowing them to focus purely on elevating each player's individual skill set.

Personalized Feedback & Tracking

Each player will receive **ongoing**, **personalized feedback** from coaches throughout the season. We emphasize communication between coaches, players, and parents—so everyone understands where a player is thriving and where they can improve.



This isn't house league. This isn't just extra ice.

This is a **strategic**, **elite-tier development system** designed to give your child the tools, mindset, and mentorship needed to reach the next level of hockey.

Coaching & Development Staff Bios

W Head Coach: Scott Wilson

Scott Wilson is renowned for his transformative coaching approach. In the 2023–2024 season, he took over the Blyth Bruins mid-season and led them from last place to championship victory. Scott emphasizes player development, team cohesion, and a winning mentality.

✓ Director of Hockey Operations: Nicholas Rotondi

Nicholas Rotondi brings extensive experience in hockey operations and player development. He serves as the Director of Hockey Operations for the Georgetown Raiders in the Ontario Junior Hockey League (OJHL). Nicholas is also the President of Wave Hockey Inc., where he oversees comprehensive hockey programs. His dual roles demonstrate his commitment to fostering talent at various levels. About.me+3LinkedIn+3LinkedIn+3

- LinkedIn Profile: <u>Nicholas Rotondi President at Wave Hockey Inc.</u>
- Georgetown Raiders Profile: Executive and Coaching Staff Georgetown Raiders

Development Coach: Dino Felicetti

Dino Felicetti is an Italian-Canadian former professional ice hockey winger with a distinguished 17-year career in Europe. He represented Italy in the 1998 Winter Olympics and participated in multiple World Championships. Dino was the scoring leader in the 2005 Division IB World Championship and won the Serie A Championship with HC Milano in 2006. Post-retirement, he has dedicated himself to coaching, focusing on skill development and mentoring young athletes.blomha.com+2Wikipedia+2blomha.com+2

- Elite Prospects Profile: Dino Felicetti Player Profile
- Wikipedia: Dino Felicetti Wikipedia

Director of Power Skating: Jarret Reid

Jarret Reid is a former professional hockey player and a specialist in power skating instruction. Drafted 4th overall in the first round of the OHL Priority Selection by the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds, Jarret played a pivotal role in leading the team to three consecutive Memorial Cup appearances, securing the championship in 1993. He now serves as the Director of Power Skating at Wave Hockey in Burlington, Ontario, focusing on enhancing players' skating techniques, speed, and agility. About.me+1Google Sites+1Blog+4Google Sites+4Elite Prospects+4LinkedIn+1Google Sites+1

- LinkedIn Profile: Jarret Reid Director of Power Skating at Wave Hockey
- Elite Prospects Profile: <u>Jarret Reid Player Profile</u>

This team of seasoned professionals is dedicated to providing top-tier coaching and development, ensuring that each player reaches their full potential both on and off the ice.

Showcases & Tournament Travel

High-Impact Hockey. Real Exposure. Shared Memories.

At the **Blyth Raiders U16 AA Junior Varsity level**, we understand that exposure to elite competition is a critical part of a player's growth. That's why our season includes a blend of **high-level tournaments** and **recruitment-driven showcases**—each carefully chosen to push our team and open doors for our players.

@ What's the Difference?

Tournaments

- Competitive events with playoffs, championships, and medals
- Opportunity for team bonding, high-stakes pressure, and full-schedule gameplay
- May include travel and hotel stays

Showcases

- Primarily for player visibility and scouting exposure
- Feature fewer games, but often with recruiters, scouts, or prep/NCAA reps in attendance
- Focused on player evaluation and high-tempo gameplay, not standings

We'll select a mix of both—ensuring every player gets the competition they need and the exposure they deserve.

Travel with Purpose

We plan to participate in:

- Three to four tournaments
- One to two elite showcases

Tournament locations will be selected in consultation with families, balancing cost, competition, and value. Our goal is to make at least **one destination event truly special**—whether that's:

- ____ A legendary hockey city like **Boston** or **Pittsburgh**
- * A sunny tournament in Florida
- Or even an international trip to Europe

These trips may include:

- Attending an NCAA or junior-level hockey game
- Locker room tours and behind-the-scenes exposure
- Team-building outings to strengthen chemistry and create lifelong memories

Fundraising Support

To make travel accessible for all families, we'll organize **team-based fundraising campaigns** throughout the season. This ensures that **every player has a fair opportunity to participate** in marguee experiences, regardless of personal financial circumstances.

Why We Travel

- Compete against unfamiliar systems and opponents
- Bond as a unit and strengthen team culture
- Learn how to perform on the road—just like the pros
- Experience new cities and college-level programs
- Build memories that go beyond wins and losses

Player Success & Legacy

Where They've Been. Where You Could Go Next.

The **Blyth Raiders U16 AA Junior Varsity program** isn't just about building strong teams—it's about **building strong futures**. Our players benefit from a system with a **proven track record of developing talent**, thanks to our elite development model, coaching excellence, and competitive game schedule.

If your child dreams of playing Junior A, NCAA, OHL, or beyond—this is the stepping stone.

✓ Notable Alumni from Blyth Academy Hockey

Our extended network of Blyth-trained athletes includes players who've gone on to compete at the highest levels:

- Matt Luff NHL, Los Angeles Kings
- Owen Tippett NHL Forward, Philadelphia Flyers
- Malcolm Spence Assistant Captain, Team Canada U18, OHL star
- Jeff Malott NCAA, AHL, NHL forward

- Nick DiPaolo (2006) Committed to Niagara University (NCAA D1)
- Lucas Digiantomosso (2005) Sudbury Wolves (OHL)
- **James Wong (2005)** Georgetown Raiders Junior A (OJHL)
- Samuel Smerda (2006) U18 Czech National Team

These players started exactly where you are now—with a commitment to development, the right coaching, and a hunger to improve.

W The Conacher Family Legacy

Train with Hockey Royalty

The Blyth Raiders program is proud to be guided and influenced by members of the legendary **Conacher hockey family**, one of Canada's most iconic hockey bloodlines:

- **Lionel Conacher** Stanley Cup Champion, *Hockey Hall of Fame inductee*, named Canada's top athlete of the first half of the 20th century
- Charlie Conacher NHL goal-scoring champion, Stanley Cup winner, Hockey Hall of Fame
- Roy Conacher Stanley Cup Champion, Hockey Hall of Fame
- Cory Conacher 203 NHL games (Tampa Bay, Ottawa, Buffalo, NY Islanders), now mentoring young athletes through our program
 Learn more about the Conacher family legacy
 - ✓ When your child trains with us, they're learning from a system rooted in hockey greatness.

What Makes the Difference?

It's not luck—it's:

• Quality coaching and skill-specific development

- A structured weekly schedule that replicates high-level programs
- Competitive tournaments and showcases that build real confidence
- A supportive but demanding culture focused on long-term growth

Your Child Could Be Next

We're not just preparing kids to win games—we're preparing them for their next chapter, whatever it looks like. Whether that's **Junior A**, the **NCAA**, or a leadership role in their community—we're here to **build champions on and off the ice**.

Contact & FAQ

Ready to Take the Next Step? We're Here to Help.

We know that joining a new team—especially at the AA level—is a big decision. Whether you're looking for more details about our program, have questions about travel, or just want to know if this is the right fit for your child, we're happy to talk.

Contact Information

Head Coach: Scott Wilson

Email: scott@geekcertified.com

Cell: 289-259-8059

Tryout Registration: https://wavesports.ca/blyth-tryouts-u16aaa-u16jv

Spots are limited, and our roster will fill quickly. If your child is interested in high-level development, don't wait to reach out.

Prequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible to try out?

Players born in **2010 or 2011** with experience at the **Single A level or higher**. If your child is hardworking, coachable, and wants to improve—we encourage them to attend.

What if my child hasn't played AA before?

That's okay. Many of our players have successfully transitioned from A or Single A programs. What matters most is **work ethic**, **attitude**, **and willingness to learn**.

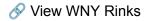
How are players evaluated at tryouts?

Players will be assessed on:

- Skating ability
- Game sense and decision-making
- Compete level and work ethic
- Coachability and communication

Where are practices and games held?

- Practices: Wave Twin Rinks (Burlington) and Niagara Region locations
- **Games:** Across Ontario and Western New York, including Buffalo, Jamestown, Niagara Falls, and beyond



How much travel is involved?

We maintain a balanced schedule of home and away games. Travel includes:

- Cross-border league play
- One to two showcases

• Three to four tournaments, including one potential destination event (e.g., Florida or Europe)

Will there be fundraising opportunities?

Absolutely. We plan to organize **team-based fundraising efforts** to help support travel-related expenses and ensure accessibility for all players.

Do I need to commit now?

No commitment is required just yet—but **tryouts will fill up fast**. We strongly recommend registering early to give your child the best chance to make the team.