

Gilmour Youth Hockey Association 2020-2021 Coaching Staff

14u/Bantam 1

Head Coach: Mark Ferfolia Sr.

Coach Ferfolia brings a lifetime of hockey knowledge to our program. He has served as a high school head coach for the past 41 years. He began coaching at Trinity High School in 1979 and remained there until 2011. After that he took the head coaching position at Chagrin Falls High School where he coached from 2011-2014. He is now Head Coach at Lakewood High School where he has coached since 2015.

During his career, Coach Ferfolia has been named Coach of the Year 3 times in greater Cleveland High School Hockey League. He has taken 2 teams to the State High School Final Four and has finished as State Runner-up once. His teams have won 5 Divisional Championships. He was awarded the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) sportsmanship, ethics and integrity award in 2005. He was a Member of the National Federation of High Schools playing rules committee from 2005-2009 and a member of the OHSAA ice hockey advisory committee from 1995-2014. He served as President of the Ohio High School Hockey Coaches' Association from 1990-2014. He served as USA hockey Mid-Am District board member from 1991-2016 as Vice President of Ohio High School Hockey.

Coach Ferfolia also has 42 years of coaching experience in local youth hockey (34 years at Garfield Heights and 8 at GYHA). He has won 8 divisional championships in the Cleveland Suburban Hockey League (CSHL) during that time.

Coach Ferfolia stresses fundamentals, work-ethic and accountability with his players in order to prepare them for high school hockey and beyond. He loves working with hockey players to get them to next level.

Asst. Coach: Fred Krause

Coach Krause grew up playing hockey in Cleveland – first in the Garfield Heights youth program and then at Trinity High School. Following high school he played at Adrian College (ACHA) where his team won 3 Division III National Championships during his time there. He coached at Garfield Heights before joining the GYHA Program in 2015 as an assistant coach with our 14u/Bantam program. In addition to coaching at GYHA, Coach Krause is entering his 5th season as an assistant coach at Lakewood High School.

14u/Bantam 2

Head Coach: Andrew Shirdon

Coach Shirdon is originally from the D.C. area. He began playing hockey at age 13. In High School he attended Our Lady of Good Counsel where he focused on golf while practicing with the hockey team. He earned a golf scholarship to the University of Maryland Eastern Shore where he graduated Magna Cum Laude with a degree in Professional Golf Management and he now works as a Golf Professional.

He coached hockey camps and clinics for 4 seasons before coaching the 18u and 16u programs in College Park, MD during the 2017-18 season. He moved to Cleveland prior to the 2018-19 season and is entering his 3rd year coaching the GYHA 14u/Bantam program.

Coach Shirdon stresses fundamentals to his players as well as the importance of becoming a student of the game. He says: "If they become students they truly can master the game instead of just playing. A student is more willing to help someone out in need. I want my players to explain systems, drills etc. to their teammates because shows me that they truly understand what we are teaching."

Asst. Coach: Danny Gilliam

Coach Gilliam Grew up playing in the Cleveland Heights youth program from Mite through Bantam and then played high school varsity hockey at Cleveland Heights High School, under Coach John Malloy. Following high school he played hockey at The Ohio State University (ACHA) for 2 seasons.

He enters his 10th season with GYHA and has coached at all levels within the program. Prior to joining GYHA, he was the conditioning coach for Cleveland Heights High School from 1997-1999, coached at Cleveland Heights in the youth organization from 1999-2009, was the assistant coach for Mayfield HS from 2009-2011 and West Geauga High School from 2011-2017 where he led the team to its first Barons Cup Championship in school history in 2014.

12u/PeeWee 1

Head Coach: Andy Baskin

Coach Baskin grew up playing youth hockey for Cleveland Heights. He then played at Cleveland Heights High School from 1983-1986 during Coach John Malloy's era for the Tigers, playing for one of the most dominant high school hockey programs in OHSAA History. Following high school, he played junior hockey for the Midwest Express program.

After his playing career, Coach Baskin served as an assistant coach for the Gilmour Academy Varsity A Team from 2004-2007. He enters his 10th season with GYHA. He has coached both the boys and girls programs at GYHA as a head or assistant coach at every level from 8u/Mite-14u/Bantam during that time.

He has also been involved as the head coach of Team Cleveland for the JCC Maccabi Games from 2019-Present and was the Team Ambassador for the Cleveland Lady Barons at the International Children's Games in Lake Placid 2019.

"The lessons learned and friendships made by playing or coaching hockey last a lifetime," he says. "They can influence every part of your life well beyond your last goal."

Asst. Coaches: TBD

12u/PeeWee 2

Head Coach: Mike Hummer

Coach Hummer grew up in Cleveland and played 9 seasons of youth hockey at the Cleveland Skating Club. In high school he attended St. Ignatius where he played for 4 years. He began coaching again at Cleveland Skating Club in 2011, coached there for 2 seasons, and has been involved in the game ever since. He moved to Florida where he coached at various programs, camps and clinics before returning to Cleveland last year. He enters his second season with GYHA and was an assistant with the 12u/PeeWee 3 team during the 2019-20 season. He places a strong emphasis on player development through teaching skills and concepts.

Asst. Coaches: TBD

12u/PeeWee 3

Head Coach: Austin Secolic

Coach Secolic began skating at 2-years-old and began playing hockey shortly thereafter. He has been involved in the game either as a player or coach ever since. He played youth hockey at Euclid, Geauga and Shaker Heights before attending Kenston High School where he played varsity hockey and his team won the 2008-09 CVCA Championship. He enters his second year as head coach of the GYHA 12u/PeeWee 3 team and wants to instill his passion for the game in his players. He enjoys teaching his players and giving back to the game he loves through coaching.

Asst. Coaches: TBD

10u/Squirt 1

Head Coach: Andy Newpher

Coach Newpher grew up playing youth hockey in Pittsburgh, PA and attended Pine-Richland High School where he served as captain of the Varsity team. Following high school he played at Gannon University (ACHA).

He has coached for 6 seasons at all levels from 8u/Mites – 14u/Bantams. He enters his second season as head coach of the 10u/Squirt 1 team and prior to that was GYHA's Head ADM Coordinator for 2 seasons. He also was an assistant on the 12u/PeeWee 1 team during the 2019-20 season.

Coach Newpher strongly believes in USA Hockey's American Development Model. "My goal as a youth coach is to help develop skills and passion for the game that will allow players to enjoy hockey for life - at any level," he says. "I expect three things from my players: Skate hard, have fun, be good teammates."

Asst. Coaches: TBD

10u/Squirt 2

Head Coach: TBD

Asst. Coaches: TBD

8u/ADM Mites

Head Coordinator: Tony Perrino

Coach Perrino grew up in Cleveland and played youth hockey at Euclid. He played varsity hockey while attending Lake Catholic and graduated in 2002.

His coaching philosophy is that hockey should be fun and he wants to make sure that the kids are learning as much as possible while having fun. He teaches his players to work hard and have fun and believes that positive reinforcement goes along way with young kids.

Asst. Coordinator: Ryan Cohen

Coach Cohen grew up in Simsbury, CT where he played youth and high school hockey. His team won the Central Connecticut Conference (CCC) West Championship 3 times during his high school career. Following high school he played 4 years at Western State College (ACHA). He enters his 4th season with the 8u/ADM Mite program and has served as assistant coordinator the past 2 seasons.

Coaches: TBD

Girls 16u Tier 1

Head Coach: Seanna Conway

Coach Conway was born in Washington, D.C. but moved to Cleveland at a very young age, where she began playing ice hockey in the CSHL. She played for Gilmour Academy Boys' Varsity A team in high school and played NCAA Division I ice hockey at the University of New Hampshire. She also played in the National Women's Hockey League (NHL) for the Avalanche du Quebec and finished her collegiate career at York University in Toronto, ON, Canada. She was also selected for the USA Hockey U19 Select Festival at Lake Placid, NY in 2002 finishing with the Highest Save Percentage at the Festival.

Coach Conway played in Ireland and has represented Team Ireland at their only two appearances in IIHF World Championships (Sofia, Bulgaria in 2011 and Izmir, Turkey in 2012) winning an MVP award and Goalie of the Tournament Award. She has been a Goaltending Instructor for over 16 years and has worked at camps in the Greater Toronto Area and Cleveland as well as with individual teams. She has also been selected as a Goaltending Instructor at High Performance camps by both the IIHF and USA Hockey.

More recently, she was the Goaltending Coach for the '04 Barons AAA and the Head Coach of the Ohio Flames AAA U14 Girls during the 2014/2015 season. From 2015-2018, Seanna was the Head Coach of the Cleveland Lady Barons U14 Elite helping to building the program from its inception in 2015/2016.

Currently, Coach Conway is the Head Coach of the Gilmour Academy Girls Prep (U19 Tier 1) Team and the Gilmour Gladiators (Girls) U16 Tier 1 Team.

Asst. Coach: Dean Kelly

Originally from Dublin, Ireland, Coach Kelly has coached numerous teams throughout Cleveland since 2014. He has been involved with the '04 Cleveland Barons AAA, Ohio Flames AAA, Cleveland Lady Barons U14 Elite, and Lake Catholic High School. For the past 3 seasons, he has been the Head Coach of the Cleveland Lady Barons U14 Black team as well as an Assistant Coach with the Gilmour Gladiators Girls 16U AAA and Gilmour Academy Girls Prep teams.

Coach Kelly grew up playing both ice and inline hockey in Ireland and has represented Team Ireland at several IIHF World Championships at both Division III and II levels. He was fortunate enough to win both Gold and Silver medals with Team Ireland and honored to serve as an Assistant Captain for Team Ireland. Coach Kelly was also heavily involved in the day to day administration with the Irish Ice Hockey Association. He has also been an on-ice official in the past.

Girls 19u Tier 2

Head Coach: Carly Menges

Coach Menges grew up in Cleveland and played at Gilmour Academy for the Girls Prep team. Following high school she played NCAA Division I hockey at the University of Maine for 1 semester before transferring to NCAA Division III Norwich University for the remainder of her college career.

While at Norwich, the team won 3 conference championships, and made 2 visits to NCAA Frozen 4 tournament, winning the division 3 national championship in 2018. Coach Menges was named to the All-Tournament team at the 2018 Frozen Four, and was awarded with the Elite 90 award at the 2017 NCAA Frozen Four Tournament.

She graduated from Norwich in 2019 with a Health Sciences degree and is now perusing her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree at Cleveland State University.

Coach Menges returns for her second season as GYHA Girls 19u Tier 2 head coach. Her two main goals for the team are to have fun and get better. She enjoys coaching because it allows her to give back to hockey and still be a part of the game.

Asst. Coach: Allie Sharon

Coach Sharon played youth hockey at Cleveland Heights before playing varsity hockey for Cleveland Heights High School (co-ed team) where she was the first female hockey player to graduate having played all 4 seasons on the varsity hockey team. She then played two years of co-ed hockey at The College of Wooster before transferring to The Ohio State University (ACHA) and playing two years of women's hockey.

This is her second season coaching the GYHA Girls 19u Tier 2 program. She focuses on developing the skills needed to succeed on the ice as well as teaching the girls to be good teammates and good sports. "A good hockey player has to have strong fundamental skills," she says. "I want to help each person that I coach develop these skills and find out what kind of player they want to be."

GYHA 2020-2021 Hockey Operations and Auxiliary Staff

Hockey Director: Mike Chiellino

Coach Chiellino enters his 7th season as the head coach of the Gilmour Academy Boys Prep hockey team. He is also the Hockey Director for both the Gilmour Academy and GYHA programs overseeing the administration of all of the teams in each program. He brings with him a fresh approach to the game as it relates to his personal experience as both a player and a coach at the collegiate level as well as within the private school and youth settings.

His love of the game dates back to his days as a player. He grew up in New York where he was one of the varsity boys ice hockey team's top five leading scorers his junior and senior years at New Hartford High School. He went on to play two seasons at Mohawk Valley Community College (NJCAA) where he ranked in the Nation's top 15 in points as a team captain in his second season. He then took his playing career to Siena College (ACHA) in Albany, N.Y. He helped lead the team to two Final Four appearances, including a third place National ranking his senior year. During his 141 college hockey games he recorded 116 points.

On the coaching side, Coach Chiellino began his career at the Nichols School in Buffalo in 2009, serving as the head coach of the boys 7th and 8th grade prep team before moving up less than one year later to become the head coach of the Senior Boys Division 2 Prep team as well as a key piece to growing the boys hockey program. During the offseason, he served as Assistant Director and Coach with Complete Hockey NY, was a clinics instructor with David T. Smith Hockey and a team leader for the USA Hockey Select 16 and 17 National Player Development Camps. Additionally, Coach Chiellino was a NYSAHA - USA Hockey Coaching Education program presenter and an assistant coach for the Women's Team Western NY at the 2012 Empire State Games in Lake Placid, N.Y. Prior to arriving at Gilmour, his most recent coaching experience was as a two-year NCAA assistant coach with the men's ice hockey program at Hamilton College (NESCAC) in Clinton, N.Y.

Coach Chiellino has a bachelor's degree in sociology with a minor in criminal justice from Siena College and a master's degree in counselor education from Canisius College. He is a member of the American Hockey Coaches Association and is a Master Level 5 USA Hockey certified coach.

Youth Hockey Coordinator/Skills Coach: Timon Veach

Coach Veach will be in his 4th season coaching at Gilmour Academy and his second season as GYHA Youth Hockey Coordinator. During his time at Gilmour, he served as head coach of the Boys JV/16u teams for two seasons during which time the team won back-to-back Ohio JV State Championships – the first in program history – and has also served as an assistant coach with the Boys Prep hockey team.

Prior to coming to Gilmour, Coach Veach coached AAA hockey at the Pittsburgh Penguins Elite association for 4 seasons at the 14u/Bantam and 10u/Squirt levels as both a head and assistant coach. He also worked for the UPMC Lemieux Sports Complex as an instructor at multiple camps and clinics throughout the season and during the summer.

He began playing hockey in Pittsburgh, PA and attended Fox Chapel Area High School before going on to college and playing at the University of Kansas (ACHA) where he was an assistant captain during his Junior and Senior seasons. Upon graduating he began his coaching career as an assistant coach at the University of Kansas for 3 seasons and then worked for the Iowa Chops of the American Hockey League (AHL) as their Director of Youth Hockey and Fan Development. He then returned to his hometown of Pittsburgh and served as the Head Varsity Coach and Hockey Director at West Allegheny high school for 4 seasons before joining the Pittsburgh Penguins Elite. During his time at West Allegheny, the team won its first Penguins Cup as Western Pennsylvania Champions and made the School's first appearance in the Pennsylvania State Championship game.

He has also worked as an instructor at camps and clinics throughout the country and as an evaluator for USA Hockey's Mid-Am District Player Development Camps. He has trained and worked directly with players from all ages and ability levels from learn-to-skate to the National Hockey League (NHL).

Coach Veach has a bachelor's degree in Journalism from the University of Kansas and a master's degree in Instructional Leadership and Sports Management from Robert Morris University. He is a Level 4 USA Hockey certified coach.

His long-term objectives for GYHA are to grow the program to a level consistent with USA Hockey's Model Association status. In doing this, he will continue to work with the coaches in the organization to grow and refine their abilities, assist directly with on-ice development of players through skills practices and clinics and expand the practice and training opportunities available to each player to allow them to reach their potential on the ice.

Goaltending Coach: Neil Conway

Coach Conway grew up in Painesville, Ohio playing youth hockey in the Mentor, Euclid and Cleveland Skating Club programs. He then played for the Cleveland Barons and Pittsburgh Hornets AAA teams before moving to Stouffville, Ontario at the age of 15 to play Jr. A for the Stouffville Spirit. From there he was drafted to the Ontario Hockey League, (OHL) and played for the Owen Sound Attack and Oshawa Generals while also spending time with the Greenbay Gamblers (USHL). Coach Conway played for the Team USA National Programs at the U17 and U18 levels. Neil then went on to play at Saint Mary's University in Halifax, Nova Scotia completing his Bachelor's Degree in Business and winning a CIS National Championship. He played 4 years of professional hockey in North America as well as in Europe; ECHL, EIHL (England) Series A (Italy).

Coach Conway has coached at the NCAA D1 Level with Colgate University (ECAC) and professionally in Europe in the EBEL Erste Bank Eishockey Liga (Austria's Top Professional League). Neil has over 13 years of coaching experience. He has been coaching goaltenders in Toronto since the age of 15. He has seen first-hand several different techniques and approaches to the game and has combined them into an effective, efficient practical approach for his goalies.

Coach Conway's approach and style of the game emphasize using a modern technical approach with an emphasis on athleticism. Hockey is an ever evolving game becoming faster and faster. No matter how big goalies get they will always have to be athletes and be reactive. Positioning is critical to a goaltender and they have to be able to get around the crease efficiently and effectively giving themselves the best possible chance of success. Furthermore, goaltenders need to leverage their own natural strengths/talents. Not every goaltender can nor should play the same way.

Coach Conway is a Level 4 USA Hockey certified coach and holds a USA Hockey Goalie certification as well. He has worked as an evaluator for USA Hockey's Mid-Am District Player Development Camps. He is also a private goaltending coach for goalies playing at the professional level.

