

ISHL Players Show Well at Team Texas Tryouts

Last weekend the Texas Amateur Hockey Association (TAHA) with USA Hockey Rocky Mountain District held tryouts with the top Juniors and Seniors from all over the state in high school hockey. The goal? To represent the state of Texas on Team Texas at the National tournament in St Louis and bring the National title to Texas.



Tryouts were held in Plano and were an all-day affair. 63 players registered for the tryouts and they were divided up in to four team. Each team played 4 games and players were evaluated, then primary selections were made for the final two teams to play in an “all star” game. During that game, players were evaluated for the final roster selection.

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Coach Anderson (Apollos) was part of the evaluators and had this to say, “I was very, very pleased to see so many Houston players attend this year’s tryouts! Out of 63 players from all over the State to be evaluated you’d think that making selections wouldn’t be too difficult, but that was definitely not the case. The talent level was outstanding and very linear. Watching these young men on the ice and giving their best effort to represent our State team was very exciting! I can’t wait to see what this



team does at Nationals. We had the players on the ice for a couple hours and then dropped the numbers from 63 to 31 (which included 5 goalies) and the skill level was further condensed. Making selections from those players took us quite a while, but the final roster looks outstanding.”

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Representing Team Texas from Houston will be 6 players. The 20 player roster along with 2 alternate defensemen, 2 alternate forwards and 1 alternate goalie will have an all day team day and practices in April to be ready for the tournament which begins on the 24th.



Representing the ISHL are goalie Mikhail (Misha) Saratovtsev (Apollos & Strake Jesuit), Kacper Drabcynski (Apollos & Seven Lakes), Logan Diskey (Klein), Logan Graham (Apollos and Strake Jesuit), Andrew Green (Klein), and Kurtis Brachlow (Cy Woods).

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“This is the most players from Houston to be selected for Team Texas that I can recall.” Said Coach Anderson. “I checked with ISHL President Debbie Crabtree and USA Hockey rep TC Lewis to see if they could remember when the last player was selected from Houston to be on the team, let alone 6, and we could agree that it has been a long time and could not remember having this many on the roster, ever. I’m so proud of the players from Houston for having the guts to try out but obviously for making the team and representing Team Texas. Congratulations to the players that were selected and thank you for your outstanding effort to the players that were not selected this year but showed excellent effort at the evaluations.”

Follow along with tahahockey.org, [@TeamTexasHockey](https://twitter.com/TeamTexasHockey) and USAHockey.com for information and follow the progress of the team.