



## Season Highlights!

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### ***National Tournaments Attended***

Shooting Star Easter Showcase  
USAFH National Indoor Qualifiers  
NFHCA Winter Escape Showcase  
USAFH National Hockey Festival

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**Thank You!** - We'd like to thank all of our parents for their continued support, and our skilled coaching staff from this past year: Elizabeth, Charlotte, Nellie, Christine, Lynnae, Elle & Frankie! You make all of this possible!

**2023 NEXUS Championship Selections** - Two of our athletes were selected for the USA Field Hockey NEXUS Championship this July! This selection marks

the completion of the Regional Training & Selection Camp and the next step in the Olympic Development Pathway and tryout process for the Junior U.S. National Teams & U.S. Women's National Team. Congratulations to our Atlanta High School Team Captain, Emilia Rubel '26, and our Founder & Director and Atlanta Women's Team Captain, Elizabeth Hitti, on being selected!



**Women's Team Places 2nd at National Club Championship** - This summer, the Atlanta Women's team finished 2nd in the country at the USFHL National Club Championship (NCC) for the second year in a row!! We can't wait to see the team, made up of AFHC coaches and adult athletes, back next year going for gold again! This year also marked the Atlanta Men's first time qualifying and competing at NCCs. The Men's team finished in 7th place, and they're already excited to continue to grow as a team over the next year and come back even stronger!







### **Graduating Seniors & Awards**

***Graduating Seniors*** - We are so proud of our 2023 graduating class! We will miss them and all that they have brought to our club, but we can't wait to see ALL FOUR of them competing in NCAA field hockey next year!!



### **AFHC's Class of 2023 & College Commitments:**

Margaret Cover - Washington and Lee University

Sophie Cover - Washington and Lee University

Grace Matt - Coker University

Ria Patel - Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute



**End of Season Awards** - Congratulations to **Josephine Coffey-Moreau '25** (Most Inspirational Player) and **Ria Patel '23** (Most Valuable Player) on their accomplishments this season!

**Most Inspirational Player:** awarded to the player that has increased their impact on the team in a positive way from the beginning to the end of the season. Josie embraced new opportunities, took risks in practice and games, and approached challenges with optimism. She got thrown into a new position in the Fall and never looked back. She continually impressed us throughout the year with her natural defensive instincts and eagerness to learn and not make any mistakes. Her ability to jump into the new position, embrace any confusion or uncertainty she had, and just go for the ball with confidence inspired us. We are looking forward to continuing to develop her into a rock-solid defender and outlet-er!



**Most Valuable Player:** awarded to the player that had the largest impact on the team on and off the field. We have seen Ria grow tremendously since she first joined the club. She is now one of the biggest impact players on the field in every game both offensively, defensively, and



vocally. She is at every practice, often comes early to run, is one of the few players to do almost every extra workout, implements feedback instantly, AND has even grown as a coach and umpire too. Her absence will be greatly felt and missed next year, but we can't wait to watch her compete with RPI Field Hockey next year!



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### Spring Season

**NEXUS** - This year, 5 of our High School athletes attended the NEXUS Region 8 Training: Emilia Rubel '26, Seeret Mavi '26, Kelsey Foster '25, Josephine Coffey-Moreau '25, and Ria Patel '23. Our own coach Elizabeth also participated in NEXUS, both as a coach, working with players from around the region, and as an athlete, participating at a Senior Nexus Regional High Performance Center. From these training sessions, all 5 high school athletes were selected to participate in the Regional Selection Camp located in Virginia Beach, VA, and Emilia Rubel '26 was then selected for the NEXUS Championships for a third year in a row! Coach Elizabeth was also selected for the Senior NEXUS Championship!

**National Tournaments** - This Spring, our U19 team participated in the Shooting Star Easter Showcase and our U12 athlete, James Fellows, competed with Marojoka! James went on to win U12 Pool B while our U19 team finished 4th in competitive U19 Pool D. It was great to travel to the Northeast again, and some of the team had the opportunity to tour Washington DC and visit colleges during the trip.



***Ed Isakson/Alpharetta YMCA*** - Throughout the year, AFHC hosted 3, 6-week free field hockey programs for YMCA members to support the growth of field hockey in Georgia. In these programs, we introduced field hockey to 30+ kids from ages 5-13 who had never heard of it and taught them the basics of how to play the sport. It was great to see them develop over 6 short practices and come back for more!



**Winter Season**



***Indoor Field Hockey Season*** - Our Adult Winter Indoor League made its return this year, with adults and U19 players competing weekly. Congratulations to our League Champions - Team Blue, our League MVP - Lynnae Stypulkowski, and our League All-Stars - Christine Watts, Reginald Le Maire, and Josephine Coffey-Moreau '25.

***NITQs*** - We are very proud of both our U16 and U19 travel teams for participating in the National Indoor Tournament Qualifier in Charlotte, NC for the second year in a row. Both teams impressed at the event with our U19 team placing 1st in their pool and qualifying for the U19 National Indoor Tournament for the first time!

***NFHCA Winter Escape Showcase*** - In the midst of our indoor season, our U19 team traveled to FL again this year to participate in the January Winter Escape Showcase. The team had a challenging, and productive, weekend with all 5 games ending within 1-goal or as a draw! While in Florida, our athletes also got to spend some time together off the field with their coaches at Universal Studios!!





## Fall Season



***USAFH National Hockey Festival*** - In November 2022, AFHC's U16 & U12 Coed travel teams spent Thanksgiving in Tampa, FL, competing at the USA National Field Hockey Festival, and at our U12 team's first ever national tournament! Both teams showed great growth and teamwork, improving every game. We can't wait to see them continue to grow and become more competitive year after year on the national scale! We were also thankful to be able to have another Thanksgiving dinner together on the beach as a club!

***High School Varsity Team***- In Fall 2022, AFHC traveled with our first ever High School Varsity team, composed of our top athletes in grades 9-12, and competed against other varsity high school teams in Charlotte, NC. We look forward to continuing our relationship with schools and clubs in NC for our athletes to play at the high school level each Fall!



**U12 Coed Travel Team-** Our first ever U12 travel team competed together this fall both at the local and national level. In addition to the USA Hockey Festival, they also traveled down to Columbus, GA to face Richards Middle School, where they finished 2-1-1. Later in the season they faced Richards again, this time at home, and were very excited to host and play with a group of young athletes visiting from Eswatini! It was so exciting to watch this group grow as athletes and as a team throughout the season!

**Youth League-** Fall 2022 also marked the inaugural season of the AFHC Youth Field Hockey League. The League invited athletes of all levels to compete in weekly games at the local recreational level. It was amazing to see how much everyone learned and how their knowledge of the game grew each week. Thank you to our wonderful coaches (Lynnae, Nellie, and Christine), our U19 athletes who umpired (Ria and Josie), and all our parents who made this possible! We're looking forward to seeing the League continue to grow over the next few seasons!



**Adult League-** We also hosted an Outdoor Adult League this past Fall 2022, which was full of intense and competitive games! Thank you to everyone who came out to play and gave us a showing of great field hockey! Congratulations to our League Champions - Team Purple, our League MVP - Lynnae Stypulkowski, and our League All-Stars - Erica Heath, Nellie Poulin, Christine Watts, Ria Patel '23, and Emilia Rubel '26.

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### Looking Ahead to this Fall

**Fall Season 2023** - Along with our competitive travel teams, we will continue our AFHC Local Leagues this Fall! All League sessions will consist of half practice & half game play. Check out our website for more details about our Travel Teams, Local Leagues, and Adult Hockey, and mark your calendars for

this Fall season, starting on August 18. We can't wait to see everyone back on the field!

