

NEW MEMBERS

Registration for new and returning players takes place every September. If you would like to be added to the registration mailing list or get more information, please call:

Joe Rizzuto, President
416-245-7601

VOLUNTEERS

If you would like to volunteer as a coach or in any other capacity, please contact Joe Rizzuto at the number listed above.

LOCATION

Grandravine Arena
23 Grandravine Dr.
Toronto, ON M3J 1B3



WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Grandravine Special Program operates only through the use of volunteers. We are a federally registered charity and 100% of our fundraising goes directly to the program.
REG. # 85830 5501 RR0001.

If you would like to make a donation please make it payable to:
Grandravine Special Program
48 Mangrove Rd.
Toronto, ON, M6L 2A3
(Tax deductible receipts will be issued for donations of twenty dollars or more.)

For more information regarding sponsorships and donations please call:
Michael Liotta
416-621-2509

www.grandravinetornadoes.org



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INTERNATIONAL

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ICE HOCKEY
FOR THE DEVELOPMENTALLY
CHALLENGED

WE WILL BLOW YOU AWAY!

A BEGINNING

This program has been operating out of Grandravine Arena in North York since October 1980. The program's founder, Patrick V. Flick, began this program with just 2 players. The rest, as they say, is history.

In 1994, the Grandravine Tornadoes took to the road. They traveled to St. Louis, Missouri, for the first ever Special Hockey International tournament against the Gateway Locomotives. There has been an annual international hockey tournament since 1994, alternating between the U.S.A. and Canada. In 2006 this tournament now sanctioned by Special Hockey International was held in London, England making it a truly international event.

There are now over 25 teams that make up Special Hockey International in all three countries.

THE PROGRAM

The program operates every Saturday morning out of Grandravine Arena and is open to developmentally challenged individuals of either sex and all ages. The season runs for 26 weeks from October till the end of March. We encourage prospective new members to come out with family members and observe our teams in action. Watch the interaction—and enjoy the positive atmosphere.

The program is geared to the needs and abilities of each player. One hour each week is devoted solely for the beginner, teaching them how to skate and the very basic fundamentals of the game. This is done with help of our squad of over 20 volunteer coaches. The rest of the time is for team practices and games. Every player belongs to one of the Grandravine teams and participates in all games regardless of abilities.

Games are played between Grandravine teams as well as other teams in the GTA that are part of the Special Hockey International League. Every player is also eligible to play in the annual SHI tournament.

NOT JUST HOCKEY

The activities offered by Grandravine Special Program are designed for mentally challenged children and adults to engage in activities that have never been available to them. Our goal is much more than just teaching them to play hockey. It is to assist them with fitting into the community, social interaction, interpersonal skills and well-being.

At the same time the community gains more awareness, showing that these individuals can participate in this society in the same way as any other person. The program promotes self-confidence in those who participate and endeavours to teach them coping skills. Before going on the ice, every player is learning to cope with everyday activities, such as time scheduling, dressing, social interaction and communication.

The participants are relieved of the constant reminders of their disabilities and instead are encouraged to develop their abilities. The motivation and confidence gained can be applied to every aspect of their daily life.

