



**Colorado State University**  
Campus Recreation, c/o Sport Clubs – Ice Hockey  
8027 Campus Delivery  
Fort Collins, CO. 80521-8027

CSU Hockey recruit,

Thank you for your interest in the CSU Ram Hockey Team, Colorado State University, and the city of Fort Collins, Colorado. I trust this letter and the enclosed reading material will provide you with information about the University and the Sport Club system and inform you of the variety of options available to you for a successful experience in Fort Collins and at CSU.

Fort Collins is nestled in the front range of the Rocky Mountains in Larimer County in northern Colorado and provides a plethora of cultural, athletic, and educational activities associated with a first-class university town. It is annually ranked in many “best of” categories by top magazines nationwide for a medium-sized city. CSU is, on all accounts, a top tier university and is noted for leading the way in developing an environmentally responsible attitude to industry. The CSU Hockey team meets the high standards of CSU and is one of the most successful sports at the University, repeatedly ranked among the top teams in the nation for ACHA Division II Hockey teams. The team won the Best Club Sport for the 2007-2008 season at CSU. It provides an avenue for some of the best competitive hockey in the United States, as well as leadership challenges and experiences via student and player-led club activities and team managing. The team not only requires hockey talent, but marketing, advertising, travel and financial management, and fundraising that demands frequent interaction with the Sports Club Office, the University, the ACHA Commissioner’s Office, and a variety of community sponsors and media affiliates.

The most surprising aspect of our team is that it is nearly 100% student/player managed; what the team puts into the program, the team gets out. The coaches mentor and advise, but the students handle all activities related to the team. Furthermore, it is a club sport. Participation with the club demands more than simply showing up to games and on-ice practices; team dry-lands, fundraising, and advertising play a role in the success of our program. Players and team interns make the team a success and student/player volunteering make our club possible. The cost to participate in the program depends upon predicted season costs due mostly to travel expenses and ice time, but usually ranges around \$1500 per year; this cost can easily be offset with sponsors, and the team has a sponsorship program in place to help players pay their club dues.

Our season runs from tryouts in late September and early October to the ACHA National Championships in mid-March. Weekly workouts include dry-land once or twice a week and on-ice practice twice a week and all at night to avoid work and academic requirement conflicts. Most weeks include two games and possibly more depending on tournament and travel schedules. The team usually has two long road trips per semester involving bus or airline travel and numerous in-state away games. We play our home games at the Edora Pool and Ice Center (EPIC) in Fort Collins, CO. Our team is full of physical and talented players ranging from a variety of junior-level programs and previous college-level play to recent high school graduates. Discipline on and off the ice is mandatory as the team represents the University whenever at a team function or wearing a team uniform. Academic progress is a team priority and league requirement; self-sufficiency is essential to success on the ice and assistance with school work is always available through the team or the University. The team is proud to have had an average GPA of over 3.0 during the 2007-2008 season.

The Rams finished third in the nation for the 2005-2006 season with a final record of 23-4-3. The team finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the 2006-2007 season with a final record of 23-10-4, and finished 9<sup>th</sup> last season with a final record of 23-13-2. Please check out our team and our league competition by looking at the team website, [www.csuramhockey.com](http://www.csuramhockey.com), and the ACHA website, [www.achahockey.org](http://www.achahockey.org). These will better acquaint you with our program and the league. If you would like to visit the University, simply meet or talk with current players, or if you have any questions, please contact the team at [csuramhockey@yahoo.com](mailto:csuramhockey@yahoo.com). Again, thank you for your interest in our program and Colorado State University. I look forward to hearing from you in the future.

Sincerely,

The coaches and players – CSU Hockey Team