



## **FACTS (NOT MYTHS) PANTHER ALLIANCE PROGRAM 2009-2010**

**MYTH #1:** The Panther Alliance program requires each team to travel 8-10 times a season and is too expensive.

**FACT:** There is no threshold number of trips that each team will make; each team will make a decision about the number of trips that is based on what is best for that team. The Coaches are cognizant of the economic situation we are all facing and will do their best to take that into account this season. As far as the expense of the program, the fundamental difference between the prices as compared to Tier II programs is the ice cost because of the extra ice practice (three practices) per week. We invite you to crunch the numbers yourself and ask yourself: “what is the “best value” for the cost of the program?”

**MYTH #2:** The Panther Alliance program is not the best option for developing players.

**FACT:** There is no doubt that the Panther Alliance program is the **BEST** option for developing players. Not convinced? Take a look at the newly announced program by USA Hockey called the American Development Model. (<http://www.usahockey.com/adm/>) This was put together after years of study of what works and what doesn't by the best and the brightest hockey minds in our country. They borrowed best practices from all over the world. The initiative is to develop USA born hockey players for the highest levels of competition. Multiple ice practices during the week is at the heart of this model. Weekend training is just not cutting it. High competition and repetitive training is clearly what develops players for the highest level of play. So ask yourself, which Florida program best resembles what the experts say is greatest way to develop your player?

**MYTH #3:** The Panther Alliance program will not be able to get enough games against quality opponents locally and out of state

**FACT:** Each team played over 60 games last season with over 50% of those games in Florida. There is no doubt playing in a league provides some consistency of schedule. However, that has to be weighed against playing the right competition for the level of play. The Panthers Alliance teams will have no problem getting appropriate competition locally and playing independent local schedules will allow the teams to be selective with who they play and when. At the highest level (Midgets) the Panthers Alliance is forging a new affiliation to play in a Junior A “Future Prospects” youth league sponsored by the NAHL. This affiliation will expose our players consistently to the top scouts and recruiters. The Panthers Alliance was requested to join this new league based on the type of program we offer and our reputation among our peers.

**SEE YOU AT TRYOUTS**