



2020-21 Shakopee Hockey General Information

The intent of this document is to help communicate information about the Shakopee Youth Hockey Association (SYHA) 2020-21 season including cost, levels of play, coaching and general information. A considerable amount of planning occurs for each season, however, decisions/requirements from District 6, Minnesota Hockey and other authoritative parties are out of our control. The information provided below is to the best of our knowledge and are general guidelines with estimated costs and dates.

Levels of Play

Level of Play	Format	Gender	Birth Date/Grade Level	Season Dates
Rookie Mite	In-house		6-1-2014 – 5-31-2016	Jan. - March
Mini Mite	In-house		6-1-2013 – 5-31-2016	Nov - Mar
Intermediate & Upper Mite	In-house/Travel		6-1-2011 – 5-31-2013	Oct. - Mar
6U (Girls)	In-house	Girls	6-1-2013 to 5-31-2016	Nov - Mar
8U (Girls)	In-house/ Travel	Girls	6-1-2011 to 5-31-2013	Oct - Mar
Squirt	Travel	Boys & Girls	6-1-2009 to 5-31-2011	Oct. - Mar
10U	Travel	Girls	6-1-2009 to 5-31-2011	Sept - Mar
PeeWee	Travel	Boys	6-1-2007 to 5-31-2009	Sept - Feb/Mar
12U	Travel	Girls	6-1-2007 to 5-31-2009	Sept - Feb/Mar
Bantam	Travel	Boys	6-1-2005 to 5-31-2007	Sept - Feb/Mar
15U	Travel	Girls	6-1-2004 to 5-31-2007	Sept - Feb/Mar
Jr. Gold	Travel	Boys	6-1-2001 to 5-31-2005	Nov. – Feb./Mar

Shakopee Youth Hockey Registration

- Registration for all SYHA teams will take place online at www.shakopeehockey.com starting around August 1, 2020.
- Registration payment must be made via credit or debit card through the online SYHA registration process.
- Any player that has a payment due from a previous season will not be allowed to participate in pre-skates, try-outs or any other current season activity until the balance is paid in full.
- Registration questions should be directed to Angie Hillman at hillmanseven@aol.com. A mandatory parent meeting will be held in September for travel level players and in October for Mite players. Notification of the date, time, and location of the meeting will be communicated to all registrants.

Minnesota Hockey Participation Rule

For the 2020-21 season, the Minnesota Hockey participation rule states that players must register and participate with the association whose boundaries incorporate the player's residence. If a player desires to participate on a team from any other association, the player must obtain a signed waiver from both the releasing and receiving association president prior to submission to the district for approval. The full participation rule can be found online at www.minnesotahockey.org and www.d6hockey.net. If you have questions or need a waiver signed, please contact Jason Wolner, SYHA President, at jw@shakopeehockey.com.

Coaches

- **Non-parent coaches:** The goal is to have non-parent coaches for all travel teams, having a non parent coach will result in having a higher ice bill in the spring, No Non parent Mite coaches. This is dependent on the number of applicants and is unfortunately not always achieved.
- **Coaching Referral Program:** Any association member that refers a non-parent coach to the Hockey Development Committee for consideration will receive \$100 if that coach gets hired for the 2020-21 season.
- **Parent coaches:** Parent coaches need to complete the coaching application and will be selected after team placements are finalized.
- **Certification Requirements:** All SYHA coaches must be certified through USA Hockey. All coaches must enter USA Hockey's Coaching Education Program at Level 1, and must continue their education each year until, at a minimum, they achieve Level 3 or 4.
 - Exception - Coaches who will only coach at the Mite level may remain at Level 1 until they coach at the travel level. They will then need to progress annually to Level 3
- **MN Hockey Rule :** All coaches must complete their online age-specific module prior to participating with their team
- Rostered upper level travel coaches (Sq/10U – Jr Gold) will be reimbursed for certification classes upon providing receipt.
- All assigned coaches must register online at www.usahockey.com prior to the first practice.

Travel Teams Tryouts

Level of Play	Approx. Dates	Format
Squirt	Oct-Nov. see below	Skills & Scrimmage (3-4 hrs)
10U	Oct-Nov. see below	Skills & Scrimmage (3-4 hrs)
PeeWee	Approx. Sept 27 – Oct. 6	Skills & Scrimmage (3-5 hrs)
12U	Approx. Sept 27 – Oct. 6	Skills & Scrimmage (3-5 hrs)
Bantam	Approx. Sept 27 – Oct. 6	Skills & Scrimmage (3-5 hrs)
15U	TBD	
Junior Gold	TBD	

Tryout details: Tryouts will be closed and no parents will be allowed in the arena. Squirt/U10, we will be trying a new format on creating teams. We will be evaluating players from Oct-Mid Nov then assign teams. We expect to have 4 teams A, B1, B2, C. We feel at the younger level and with the COVID issue this summer we will get a better evaluation of the kids. Tryout dates, format and team levels may change based on final registration numbers. More information can be found on the tryout page of the SYHA website.

Goalies Tryouts: Association policy states that Goalies who “skate out” must be able to score good enough at the A or B team.

Pre-Skates

- Pre-skates take place in September prior to try-outs. These sessions are **OPTIONAL** but highly encouraged. Ice time used for pre-skates will be reflected on the ice bills for all players regardless of attendance. We ask that players attend their assigned group, if a fall sport has a time conflict you may skate at the other option. It's important to try to maintain even #'s for good reps.

Travel Team Schedule (Estimates Only)

Level of Play	D6 Games (Est)	Tournaments	Practice Hours (Est.)
Squirt/10U	12-16	3	70-80
PeeWee/12U	16-18	3	80-90
Bantam	16-18	3	80-90

Schedule Notes: D6 guidelines permit each to team to attend one out-of-town tournament.

Volunteering

- Each family is required to work 16 hours of volunteer time.
 - Exception – Families with their only player(s) at the Mite and/or 6U level(s) are required to complete 8 volunteer hours.
- A \$500 refundable deposit is required from each family at the start of the season and is destroyed if the full obligation is met.
- Families may buyout of volunteering for \$400 ONLY during registration.
- Additional details can be found online on www.shakopeehockey.com under volunteer info and will be presented at the Traveling parent meeting in September & Mite parent meeting in October.

Equipment

- Equipment – player provides all equipment.
- Jerseys/socks – SYHA has gone to player paid jersey/socks from Gemini. If you haven't purchased your jersey/socks package you must do ASAP as you may miss scrimmages and games. 8U/ Intermediate/ Advanced players will be purchasing a sublimated jersey/sock package too. Younger level mite players will receive an in-house jersey and one pair of hockey socks.
- Travel players will receive a reversible practice jersey at first day of tryouts and players will keep them.
- Team Jackets: The SYHA will be continuing the team jacket program. New jackets will be purchased for players moving to a new level (e.g. Squirts to Peewees) or first year Traveling players (Sq/10U & above). Parents can bring in their confirmed registration receipt to Valley Sports in downtown Shakopee by September 17th to be fitted for the proper size. Fittings taken place after this date will not be included in the pre-season order and delivery may be delayed. For parents wishing to buy a new jacket for a player otherwise not eligible for one, they can receive the discounted price.
- All players must have their own water bottle at the travel levels to prevent the spread of germs.

Traveling players dress code requirements:

- **Black helmet** - Helmets may have accents in Saber colors (Red, White or Gray)
- **Goalie helmets may be any color.**
- **Black Breezers** - No Stripes or accents (Solid Black) If you need to purchase a black breezer pant shell please check hockey retail and online stores.
- **Black Gloves:** Gloves may have Saber color accents (Red, White or Gray). No all Red Gloves.

Players will not be allowed on the ice during tryouts, games, tournaments or scrimmages outside of the above guideline. We are one association!

Garment bags are highly recommended for all travel players and can be purchased at Valley sports. The garment bag supports the proper care of the jerseys during the unpredictable winter months.

Program Philosophy

The goal of the SYHA hockey program is “to be the best we can be” at each level. The win-loss record of a group is important, but only in terms of the strategies of the game. Our athletes within the program will have “high expectations” placed on them on and off the ice.

There are five expectations that we have of athletes that are associated with the program. These expectations are not directly related to winning or losing. They are as follows:

1. To act with “class” on and off the ice
2. To be the best you can be (hockey player, student, and person)
3. Always give 100%
4. To be an unselfish player and individual
5. To be chemical-free

“Success” is attaining the goal of “being the best you can be”. It is a journey. Therefore, with a certain group of athletes, “success” might be attained despite having a losing record. Another may have a winning record, but in fact not be as successful because they had not reached the goal of “the best you can be”. The program will be based on a belief that if all the little things are done correctly, the scoreboard will take care of itself.

We will be team oriented in our approach. In the game of hockey, if the goals of the group are to be reached, it will occur through the dedication and effort of many individuals. Nothing can be accomplished alone in hockey.

Attendance Policy for Travel Teams (non-Mites)

To strive for maximum team success and development at the individual and team level, it's important that all players attend every practice, scrimmage and game. The attendance policy for the 2020-21 season is as follows:

- Enforcement of the attendance policy will begin the following levels:
 - 12U, PW & Bantam: October (Upon completion of Tryouts in early Oct. MEA not mandatory)
 - 10U & Squirts: (November 1)
 - 15U & Junior Gold (Upon completion of HS tryouts)
- Players are required to attend ALL games, scrimmages, practices.
- Excused absences include religion, school activities, current fall sport game or practice, illness, and family emergencies.
- Holidays and family vacations will not be considered excused absences.
- Consequences of missing a practice, scrimmage or game:
- Each player is allowed 3 unexcused absences to be used at their family's discretion. These 'passes' were added to the attendance policy to help families plan for vacations and holidays during the hockey season.
- Players missing a game/practice/scrimmage session due to an unexcused absence (beyond the pre-mentioned three) will be required to sit 1 game period per practice/scrimmage session missed.
- Unexcused absences result in the player sitting during the next scheduled game. If multiple kids are affected, it is then the coach's discretion as to when, not if, they sit. If a player has to sit two or more games in a row he/she is not required to sit back to back games.
- It will not be considered an unexcused absence if a player misses a team practice or game that was scheduled within 7 days of notification.

Playing Time Policy for Travel Teams (Non-Mites)

AA & A -Teams Bantam/Peewee/15U/12U/Junior Gold - At these levels, the coaches will strive to provide each player with a similar amount of playing time during the season. All players will be exposed to Power Play and/or Penalty Kill situations in games throughout the year. Shortening of the bench can occur in the final minutes of a game. ****Exceptions to the guidelines are listed below**

B&C Teams Bantams/Peewee/15U/12U - All players will play evenly throughout every game aside from special teams and the last three minutes of each game where the coach will have the discretion to deviate from equal play guidelines. All players will have the opportunity to play in both Power Play and Penalty Kill situations during games throughout the year. Coaches are encouraged to rotate positions throughout the season in order to find the best positional fit for each player and to continue their development. ****Exceptions to the guidelines are listed below**

10U and Squirts (All Teams) - All players will play evenly throughout every game aside from special teams and the last three minutes of each game where the coach will have the discretion to deviate from equal play guidelines. All players will have the opportunity to play in both Power Play and Penalty kill situations during games throughout the year. Players will also rotate positions throughout the season. ****Exceptions to the guidelines are listed below**

****Exception(s) to the above guidelines** - A coach will have the flexibility to reduce a player's ice time if the player is not meeting the work ethic required or for disciplinary reasons. The coach will communicate to the player and parent(s) if a player is subject to a deviation from the guidelines. Actions causing a deviation include, but are not limited to:

- adhering to the SYHA attendance policy
- work ethic
- on / off ice behavior

2020-21 Shakopee Mites Levels, 6U (Girls) & 8U (Girls)

Please register for their designated grade level. Most will play for their age group and only a few will be moved up/down based on their evaluation results. The number of spots available for "movers" is solely based on registration numbers. We won't know this number until registration closes.

- PreK - Rookies
- K - Mini (or Rookie if they are new to hockey)
- 1st - Mini (or Rookie if they are new to hockey)
- 2nd - Intermediate
- 3rd - Advanced

Rookie Mite-Mite 1: This program teaches the most basic skills of skating and hockey and is intended for children that have an interest in playing but have little or no skating experience. Emphasis is on individual skill development and developing hockey sense. This program will serve as both a learn-to-skate and learn-to-play program.

- Rookie Mite players are those players born between 7/1/2014- 6/30/2016: primarily pre-K and Kindergarten players. This is an in-house program that mirrors the design of USA Hockey's American Development Model (ADM). The primary ice times will be Saturday/Sunday morning from January through early/mid-March. All games will be played cross ice using 1/3 or 1/4 of the ice and will be in a 3 vs 3 or 4 vs 4 format.
- There will be a season ending jamboree in March.

Mini-Mites-Mite 2: The mini-mite program will be conducted in a team format following USA Hockey's ADM. The focus of this program will be continued individual skill development, while increasing players' hockey sense.

- Mini-Mite players are those born between 6/1/2013- 5/31/2016: This is an in-house program that mirrors the design of USA Hockey's ADM model. The primary ice times will be Saturday/Sunday morning from November through early/mid-March. All games will be played cross ice using 1/2 or 1/3 of the ice and will be in a 3 vs 3 or 4 vs 4 format.
- There will be a season ending jamboree in March.

Intermediate- Mite 3 / Upper Mites- Mite 4: The Intermediate Mite program will be conducted in a team format following USA Hockey's ADM. The focus of this program will be continued individual skill development, while increasing hockey sense and expanding team concepts learned earlier.

- Intermediate/Upper Mite players are those born between 6/1/2011- 5/31/2013: players who meet the skill requirements may be pulled up as numbers allow to the upper mites. This level begins the transition from the ADM to full-ice hockey.
- Practices will be station based with high activity levels and opportunities for many repetitions. Practices will typically have multiple teams sharing the ice.
- Most practices are Saturday and Sunday mornings. There may be an additional weekday practice (indoor or outside) added. District and in-house games will be cross-ice (1/2 ice) until December 31st and full-ice after December 31st.
- There will be a season ending jamboree in March.
- Intermediate/Upper Mite players will be evaluated to help create balanced teams.
- There will be 2 additional ice bills \$162.50 or \$175ea. depending on players team.

6U: The 6U program is comprised of "all girls" teams and will be conducted in a team format following USA Hockey's ADM. The 6U program will practice with the boys and follow the Mini-Mite level program and schedule/fees.

- 6U players are those born between 6/1/2013- 5/31/2016: Entry level. This is an in-house program that mirrors the design of USA Hockey's ADM model. The primary ice times will be Saturday/Sunday morning from November through early/mid-March. All games will be played cross ice using 1/2 or 1/3 of the ice and will be in a 3 vs 3 or 4 vs 4 format.
- There will be a season ending jamboree in March.

8U: 8U program is comprised of “all girls” teams and will be conducted in a team format following USA Hockey’s ADM. The 8U program will practice with the boys and follow the Intermediate/Upper mite level program and schedule/fees.

- 8U players are those born between 6/1/2011- 5/31/2013.
- Practices will be station based with high activity levels and opportunities for many repetitions. Practices will typically have multiple teams sharing the ice.
- Most practices are Saturday and Sunday mornings. There may be an additional weekday practice (indoor or outside) added. District and in-house games will be cross-ice (1/2 ice) until December 31st and some full-ice after December 31st.
- There will be a season ending jamboree in March.
- 8U players will be evaluated to help create balanced teams.

There will be 2 additional ice bills mid-season at \$175 ea.

2020/21 Estimated Season Cost per Level

Level of Play	Registration	Fundraising	USA & MN Hockey Fees	Estimated Remaining Balance Due (Approximate)
Rookie Mites	\$99	\$60	See note below	
Mini Mites	\$225	\$60	See note below	
Intermediate Mites	\$275	\$120	\$56	\$325
Upper Mites	\$275	\$120	\$56	\$350
6U (Girls)	\$225	\$60	See note below	
8U (Girls)	\$275	\$120	\$56	\$350
Squirt	\$180	\$120	\$56	\$1,350
10U	\$180	\$120	\$56	\$1,350
Pee Wee	\$180	\$120	\$56	\$1,400
12U	\$180	\$120	\$56	\$1,400
Bantam	\$180	\$120	\$56	\$1,600
15U	\$180	\$120	\$56	\$1,200
Junior Gold	\$180		\$56	\$1,100

Season Cost Notes:

- Registration Fees:
 - Rookie & Mini Mites: the fees are used to help offset the cost of the season (ice, Rink Rat Jamboree, referees, etc).
 - Intermediate, Upper and 8U: the fees are used to help offset the cost of the in-house program (ice, Rink Rat Jamboree, referees, etc).
 - Travel teams (Squirt/10U and above): the fees cover the ongoing costs of running the association (for example, tryout ice and evaluators, goalie program, annual audit and tax return fees, website, Intro to Hockey program, billpay, District 6 fees, Coach Certification Fees, bank fee, Skate program, etc.).
- Fundraising Fees: It is mandatory for all members of the SYHA to participate in the selected Fundraising Program. The fee is \$120.00 per player or \$60 per Rookie Mini, 6U and will be collected at the time of registration. Families with more than two registrations have a capped fee of \$240.00, this will be the maximum collected. The Fundraising product is available for players to sell and earn back 100% of the fee. More information regarding the Fundraising Program will be communicated to all families as we approach the season. ***** Rookie, Mini and 6U will be fundraising at \$60 per player this year.***
- USA & MN Hockey Fees: These fees are required by USA and MN Hockey. Players with a 2014 or later birth year are exempt from these fees, but must still follow the registration process accordingly.

- Remaining Balance Due:
 - Intermediate, Upper and 8U Girls Travel – there will be an additional \$325-\$350 cost to cover the additional practices, D6 games, referees, etc.
 - Travel teams (Squirt/U10 and above):
 - Recurring automatic payments will be made through the bill pay system on the Shakopee Hockey website to total the estimated balance due for the season. A final catch-up invoice will be issued at the end of the season for the difference of the estimated cost to the actual total and will also be paid through the bill pay system. **During registration you will be required to login to the bill pay system and authorize payment.** Families can choose to pay their entire estimated ice bill August thru Sept 1.
 - Total ice bill cost will include, but is not limited to: fees for tournaments, ice bills, D6 charges, and non-parent coaches (if applicable).
 - Estimate is based on the average cost per player during the 2020-21 season and guidelines outlined above.
 - These costs are ESTIMATES and will vary based on the number of practice hours, shared ice, number of tournaments and players per team.
 - **EACH TEAM WITH A NON PARENT COACH/COACHES WILL MOST LIKELY INCUR AN ADDITIONAL ICE BILL IN MARCH.** The FINAL TEAM ICE BILL can vary widely from team to team, typically average cost between \$0 to \$400 per player, but may be higher in some circumstances. In addition, other costs such as equipment, away tournament hotel rooms, optional team apparel, etc. will be incurred directly by you.
- Late Fees: A late fee charge of \$50 will be assessed to any traveling player (Squirts/U10 and above) who registers after September 4th and any Intermediate, Upper Mite or 6U and 8U player who registers after October 1st. 1st year Rookie Mite, Mini Mite and 6U will not be charged a late fee but NO registrations will be accepted after Dec. 1.
- REFUND POLICY – All refund requests must be submitted in writing to the Registrar and approved by the board.
- All refund requests must be submitted in writing to the Registrar.
- Requests received prior to the first grading/tryout session will receive a full refund, less \$100 cancellation fee.
- Requests received after first grading, but before teams are rostered will lose the registration fee for that level.
- After teams have been rostered, no registration refunds will be given. A few exceptions have been made by the Board of Directors. Examples in the past have included:
 - Players that make a High School Varsity/JV team after SYHA teams have been rostered.
 - Special circumstances involving season ending injury factoring in date of injury and costs incurred by the Association on behalf of the player.

COVID-19 REGISTRATION FEE REFUND POLICY

Following the guidance established by the State of MN, MN Hockey, USA Hockey and District 6, the Shakopee Youth Hockey Association is currently planning to have a hockey season in 2020-21, despite the significant uncertainty that still exists with regards to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, the Association is already incurring certain costs that are fixed in nature. Therefore, if the season is cancelled prior to starting, the entire fundraising fee, any late fees, as well as a small portion of your regular registration fees (estimated to be 5%) will not be refunded. If the season is cancelled or temporarily stopped after it has started, the Association will calculate a refund amount based on costs incurred by the Association. Any refunds will be calculated and distributed within 60 days of the official end of the season.

S.K.A.T.E. Program

The Shakopee Hockey Association is again proud to partner with Minnesota Hockey Journal and offer our players the opportunity to participate in the S.K.A.T.E. (Skaters Keep Achieving through Education) program. This program is meant to recognize and reward the efforts of student athletes who play hockey.

All hockey players on 15U, 10U, 12U, Squirt, PeeWee, Bantam, 15U, Jr Gold, and High School are eligible to sign-up for the S.K.A.T.E. program during the registration process. By signing up for the S.K.A.T.E. program the student athlete is committing to work towards a G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher during the 1st semester or 2nd quarter of the 2020-21 academic year.

If the student athlete obtains a 3.0 G.P.A. or higher for the 1st semester or 2nd quarter they are qualifiers and become eligible to participate in the association's recognition night. Players who receive special education assistance may qualify with a letter from their case manager stating they showed above average performance. Additionally, qualifying student athletes are entered in a statewide sweepstakes presented by Minnesota Hockey Journal.

Recreation League Available through Minnesota Hockey

For the 2020-21 season, Minnesota Hockey will again be offering a recreation league for S squirt/10U through Bantam/15U/Junior Gold aged players as an alternative to the traditional travel model offered through the associations. This program does not require a signed waiver. More information can be found at www.minnesotahockey.org or by contacting District 6 at mevans3656@q.com. Do not register online through Shakopee Hockey for this league.