

Jr. Sharks 3v3 League – Rules & Structure

Schedule

- <https://stats.sharksice.timetoscore.com/display-stats.php?league=75>
- Click on your age division schedule to view exact time slot details

Game Format

- **2-minute warmup (no pucks)**
- **24-minute run-time game**
- 3v3 small-area games designed for **high pace and constant action**
- **On-the-fly line changes** at all times
- **No faceoffs** except to start the game

After Goals

- No faceoffs after goals
- The **team that was scored on** retrieves the puck
- The **scoring team must give 15 feet of space**
- Play resumes immediately once the puck is advanced

Penalty Rules

- All penalties result in a **penalty shot**
- No power plays

Body Contact

- Players may make **contact on the puck and battle for position**
- Players are allowed to **use their body to angle and contain opponents**
- Contact is permitted as long as it is **not from behind**
- We want players to **play the body without finishing checks**
- **No body checking or open-ice hits** at any level
- No contact when players are **approaching from opposite directions (north/south)**
- Emphasis is on **body positioning, angling, and puck battles**, not delivering hits

Goalie Structure

- Goalies are **not assigned to specific teams**
- Goalies will be organized into **two blocks per age division**:
 - **Block 1:** Plays the **first 1.5 hours** of the division time slot
 - **Block 2:** Plays the **second 1.5 hours** of the division time slot

Goalie Rotation

- Each **30-minute slot** has **4 goalies playing**
- If there are more goalies than games:
 - Goalies rotate in **every 5 minutes**
 - Rotation follows a **clockwise pattern between nets**
- Goalies should be ready to **jump in quickly to keep games moving**

Puck Freezes

- When a goalie freezes the puck:
 - Offensive team must give **15 feet of space**
 - Play resumes immediately once the goalie moves the puck

Score Differential Rule

- At a **4-goal differential**, the trailing team adds an **extra skater (4v3)**
- Once the game returns to a **2-goal differential**, play returns to 3v3

Roster Flexibility

- If a team is short:
 - Players may **fill in for other teams**
 - Coaches and rink helpers will help **keep teams balanced**
- Teams with **7 or more players may not add players**

Officials

- Games will be **managed (refed) by coaches or rink staff**
- There will be **no official referees**
- These coaches/helpers will **keep the game flowing and track score**
- Please **respect their role and decisions**

Rink & Dressing Room Assignments

- **Rink 1:** Home bench side
- **Rink 2:** Away bench side
- Dressing rooms will be **shared by two teams**
- A **girls-only dressing room** will be available for female players

League Philosophy & Expectations for Players & Parents

This league is built to be a **fun, competitive, and safe environment** focused on development. We are all part of the same club, and this environment should reflect that.

- The structure and rules are in place to guide play, but:
 - **The rules are not as important as the environment WE create as a club**
- This should feel like:
 - **A fun, competitive pond hockey / pickup-style game**
 - Fast, creative, and free-flowing
- While scores are kept, the goal is not the outcome:
 - The focus is on **development, confidence, and creativity**
 - Players should feel comfortable **taking risks and making mistakes**
- We expect from everyone:
 - **Strong sportsmanship**
 - **Respect for teammates, opponents, and helpers**
 - Positive behavior from both **players and parents**