

Mites 8U Program Information

***Website:** Please check the Mites League website for all city league details. We will continue to update the website with final tier assignments, team rosters, practice updates, games schedules, weather cancellations, and other useful information.

***Eblasts:** In addition to the website, we will send out e-mail blasts as our other primary method of communication. Cherry Hunter will continue to provide you with updates from SFYHA. I will provide you with information specific to Mites. Mites e-mails will be sent to the e-mail address you used to register your child at the beginning of the year, including any additional e-mail address that was listed in your Sports Engine profile. If you would like Mites updates to be sent to a different or additional e-mail address(es), please let Cherry and me know.

***Emails from Team Coordinator:** Most communication will come from your team coordinator once teams have been divided. Emails will go from the Supervisor to Team Coordinators who will then send to Players/Families.

***First Practices & Tiers:** It is asked that all players come to practice with their name on their helmet. Please use athletic tape & sharpie & put it on their helmet above their face shield facing out. This is very helpful for the coaches, particularly at the beginning of the season. Please keep it on all season if possible. Players will be divided into tiers for the first two weeks based on age and number of years played. These first weeks are a chance for the coaches to gauge your player's skills and make sure they are placed in the right tier for the remainder of the year. It is possible for a player to change tiers based on coach review during the evaluations.

Team Placement:

City League: Once the evaluations are complete, team and tier assignments will be posted and communicated. Team coordinators will be assigned. Socks are not required to match team color, but if you'd like to match them, Hockey Headquarters has most colors.

Travel League: Travel team evaluations will happen thru mid-December during the Saturday travel practices. Team assignments will then be sent out via email and will also be posted on the Travel Mite Page. There are no sock color requirements but if your team decides to have matching socks, white socks with blue and orange stripes is preferred. This is at each team's discretion.

Team Coordinators (City and Travel)

Once teams are assigned, Team Coordinators will be assigned to help communicate directly to their team. This job will fulfill 12 volunteer hours. It's a fun way to get to know the players and parents on your child's team. If you are interested in being a team coordinator, please let your City League Supervisor (or Travel League Manager if registered for travel) know. It is a board

approved position, so it is not guaranteed. The Supervisor/Manager will notify those volunteers that were selected.

City League Team Coordinator responsibilities include:

- Determine communication method - SportsEngine, TeamSnap, GroupMe, group texts/email, etc
- Being a contact point for parents (information shared from by city league supervisor)
- Assist the coaches in communication needs
- Organizing the players for photo day and making sure all are there on time and ready for assigned time slot
- Planning team events for team building (pizza party after a game, skating at outdoor rink, bowling, etc)
- Ensure the goalie gear is handed off from player to player during goalie rotation. All players should try goalie at least once.
- Escalate any gear issues to the city league supervisor
- Assist the city league supervisor in filling volunteer slots during Sunday game night
- Collecting dues as needed
- Other duties directed by the city league supervisor

Travel League Team Coordinator responsibilities include:

- Determine communication method - SportsEngine, TeamSnap, GroupMe, group texts/email, etc
- Being a contact point for parents (information shared from by travel league manager)
- Assist the coaches in communication needs
- Planning events during hotel stay (reserve conference room for pizza party or coordinate team dinner, etc)
- Arranging for goalie gear to be available for travel team tournaments (Travel Team Coordinators should work with City League Coordinators)
- Escalate any gear issues to the city league supervisor
- Make sure to return the gear to the City Team borrowed from before the Sunday night games
- Collecting dues as needed
- Other duties directed by the travel league manager

City League Games

Sunday is game nights, however, the first 2 weeks of evaluations, games will not be played due to teams not being formed yet. Once teams are formed, game play will start on Sunday nights. The schedule can be found on the Mite City League website (listed above) and each team will have their own webpage with their schedule posted. The SportsEngine calendar can be subscribed to if needed.

Refs and Scorekeepers

Please keep in mind that the vast majority of people working on things for the Mites (or any of

the Flyers) are volunteers. This includes the Coaches, Refs, and scorekeepers. Refs are usually Squirts or PeeWee age level kids just beginning their journey into refereeing. Treat them kindly so they're not discouraged on this journey! The coaches will work with on ice refs & will be responsible for dealing with things like penalties. Things may come up that are frustrating or disappointing throughout the season, but please remember to treat all of these volunteers with respect. Generally, most volunteers are new to their task and appreciate the support. Remember we are all humans and can easily make an error.

Volunteers Opportunities for Mite events

We will need you to be a volunteer. You are the reason that the program is so great! Without the help of parents and guardians, we can't make this season happen, so please be sure to signup for DIBS as they are released. We don't want to cash your checks!

Frequent Mite event specific DIBS include:

- Cross Ice divider set up and take down (8 volunteers for set up and 8 volunteers for take down)
- Scorekeeper (3 volunteers per game time)
- Scoreboard Operator (1 volunteer per game time)

Cancellations

If for any reason a practice or game night is to be canceled, it will be posted on the website as well as emailed from the City League Supervisor or Travel League Manager. If for any reason you do not feel comfortable or safe driving to practice or game due to weather, it will not be held against your player. Please just communicate with your team coordinator or coach.