

Sioux Falls Flyers Mites Travel (8U) Information

Communication

Website: Please check the Mites Travel League website for all travel league details. We will continue to update the website with final group assignments, team rosters, practice updates, games schedules, weather cancellations, and other useful information. Please bookmark the following websites

For the main Mite 8U page - <https://www.siouxfallsflyers.com/page/show/45786-mites-8u>

For Mite Travel League Specifics - <https://www.siouxfallsflyers.com/page/show/61735-mite-travel>

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 Travel. **Mites Travel e-mail blasts 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 Travel updates to be sent to a different or additional e-mail address(es), please let Cherry and me know.** A good way to check this is to confirm that this e-mail was received by every address where you want to receive updates.

Emails from Supervisor: On occasion or as needed, the Mite Travel League Supervisor will send out emails to everyone prior to team coordinators being assigned. Once coordinators are assigned per team, emails will go from the Supervisor to Team Coordinators who will then send to Players/Families.

First Practices and Tiers

It is asked that all players come to practice with their name on their helmet. All this requires is for you to write your child's first name across some hockey tape and 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 two groups for the first two weeks, it will be 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 group for the remainder of the year.

Travel Team Placement

Once the Mite City League evaluations are complete (about 2 weeks into the season), a players travel group may change based on their tier placement. Coach Houck will continue evaluate players for Mite Travel teams through Mid-December before assigning teams. Travel team assignments will be announced by the end of December. Once assigned to a team, team coordinators will be assigned.

Team Coordinators (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 Travel League Manager know. It is a board approved position, so it is not guaranteed. The Supervisor/Manager will notify those volunteers that were selected.

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 pot luck, 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
- And of course, helping to ensure the kids have a great season.

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 (they are usually Squirts or Peewees so be kind 😊), and scorekeepers. 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 sign up for DIBS as they are released. We don't want to cash your checks!

Mite Travel event specific DIBS include:

Mites Fall Freeze Tournament:

- Cross Ice divider set up and take down (8 volunteers for set up & 8 volunteers for take down)
- PA Announcer/Scoreboard Operator (1 volunteer per game time)

Cancellations

If for any reason a practice or game night is to be cancelled, it will be posted on the website as well as emailed from the 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.