

1. **Is it more expensive?** Short answer, not really. While goalie gear can be expensive MVI outfits our goalies with much of the gear they need. MVI provides leg pads, chest/arm protection, and gloves. The player is responsible for the rest of the equipment, which in general is in the same cost range as the equivalent item for a non-goalie.

At the Mite/8U level your goalie will be part time and use the team gear.

For full time goalies (Squirt/10U and up) you are responsible for buying: skates, mask, neck guard/dangler, mouthguard, knee pads, jock/jill, breezers, and stick. Goalies under 5' in height will typically use a 23" or 24" stick, between 5' and 6' will use a 25" stick.

2. **What if my goalie needs gear?** If your goalie needs leg pads, gloves, or chest/arm ask your coach or the equipment manager. MVI has goalie gear and can arrange a time to try on gear we already have. DO NOT purchase gear prior to working with the equipment manager. MVI will not reimburse you for gear purchased without approval.
3. **Do I need to buy goalie skates or a goalie mask right away?** No, you do not need to get goalie skates or a goalie mask at younger levels. As players get older and become dedicated to being a goalie then specific goalie gear like skates, mask, and even breezers are recommended.
4. **What if my hockey player isn't sure about being a goalie?** At Mite/8U/Squirt/10U kids should have the opportunity to try playing goalie to see if they like it. Even if they don't become a goalie it's a good chance to learn more about the game and see it from a different perspective.
5. **Should my child be dedicated to goalie 100%?** Definitely not at younger ages, in Mites/8U kids should focus on goalie less than half the time. Goalies need to be good skaters so they can get in position to make the save and the best way to improve skating is to skate in practice and games. Even in Squirts/10U if a team has more than one goalie it's a great time for anyone not in the net to skate and continue working on those skills. At older levels talk to your coach about the goalie plan.
6. **Are there coaches in MVI who can coach a goalie?** ABSOLUTELY. During the season our goalies are encouraged to attend the goalie specific training held for each age level, these coaches also attend team practices during the season. We also have many coaches who have attended USA hockey goalie training to better work with our goalies, along with coaches who are goalies themselves.
7. **Who can help with questions?** Any questions can be directed to your teams' coaches or contact the level coordinator/goalie coordinator. They are happy to answer questions or find the right resources.