



Welcome to the St. Cloud Youth Hockey Association

This handout will help answer some initial questions regarding St. Cloud Youth Hockey Association (SCYHA). The association uses its website www.stcloudhockey.com as the primary means of communication. Check the website for updates, schedule changes and any other SCYHA related information.

Where do you begin?

If you are new to hockey you are most likely starting at the Jr Mite or Mite level. These levels are for ages 5-8. If your child is age 9 or 10 they would be in the squirt/U10 age group. Kids age 11 & 12 are in the peewee/U12 age group and kids age 13 and 14 are in the bantam/U14 age group. This document will address the Jr Mite and Mite level as that is where most kids begin. If you have questions on the other age groups please contact us.

Our objectives at the JR Mite/Mite levels are:

1. Enjoyable introduction and experience in hockey and our Association
2. Provide a healthy environment for fun and learning
3. Teach the basic fundamental skills
4. Stress participation, fun, and skill development
5. Development of communication at the players' level of learning
6. Introduction to games

What is the difference between JR Mite/Mite?

Age and Ability

JR Mite is the program designed for first & second year skaters.

This program is available for players that will be 5 years of age by December 31st. Whether your player (girl or boy) has never put on skates or has been skating, all skill levels are welcome. Girls and boys are placed on a JR Mite team after a series of Fundamental Skills sessions. The teams are formed based on each team having the same ability between the players and your skater will play games against other SCYHA JR Mites. An emphasis is placed on having fun while learning basic hockey, and skating fundamentals. The JR Mite program runs from early October through the middle of March.

Mite is the program designed for third & fourth year skaters.

This program is designed for players that have knowledge of the game, yet are having fun developing their skills. Girls and boys together are placed on a Mite team after a series of Dynamic's/Fundamentals. The teams are formed based on each team having the same ability between the players and your skater will play games against other SCYHA Mites. An emphasis is placed on having fun while learning the strategies of hockey. Skating skills are sharpened along with endurance. The Mite program runs from early October through the middle of March.

Coaches for our programs focus on introduction to:

- Hockey fundamentals
- Skating skills
- Puck handling
- Passing and receiving
- Shooting
- Starts and Stops

The use of multiple coaches, fun games, and cross ice/small game activities in these programs ensure an active, varied learning environment for your young skater.

When will my player skate?

JR Mite players are scheduled Saturday, Sundays and one week day.

Mite players are scheduled Saturday, and Sunday, and one week day

The schedule may vary and change and will be communicated thru email and stcloudhockey.com website. This program will only skate at the Municipal Athletic Complex (MAC) rink and the Herb Brooks National Hockey Center (SCSU).

What equipment does my player need?

Skates, shin pads, protective/pelvic cup, shoulder pads, elbow pads, gloves, breezers, mouth guard, HECC certified helmet with full face shield, socks and hockey stick. Area equipment resellers, such as, (1) Hockeyzone; (2) Scheels; (3) Centennial Sports; and (4) Play it Again Sports may help you determine the correct size equipment for your player. SCYHA will rent some equipment sets on a first come basis for a fee of \$35/year along with a \$100 deposit/hold check. Your player will receive a matching jersey & socks once assigned to a team, which is theirs to keep. All players will receive a new stick for free if they choose the first day which will be measured, cut and taped for them also to keep.

What does it cost to play SCHYA JR Mite/Mite Hockey?

The annual fee for SCYHA is \$150 for players at the Jr Mite level and \$250 for players at the Mite level.

Will I have to sell items to fundraising for the Association?

There are options to fundraise, but it is not required. It is strongly suggested as a portion earned will be credited to your players account for fees due the following season. This is a great way to reduce your cost of hockey.

Will I have to volunteer my time to the Association?

Yes, and No.

ONLY families with Mite player and above are required to volunteer 4 Association hours per year. If a family only has a JR Mite player NO hours are required.

This is YOUR Association. Please take the time to get involved.

1. Coach - SCYHA is always looking for coaches at all levels. All coaches are volunteers. What better way to be involved with your children than to be out on the ice with them. **NO EXPERIENCE** necessary! Certification is easy and informative.
2. Be a team lead – Help with communications and team/game/tourney preparation.
3. Contact the executive board for currently open positions in the association. Please see the website for information on any of these opportunities.

Thank you!

If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact us.

JOIN THE FUN!

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