

## **Mite Hockey Registration Frequently Asked Questions**

### ***When does registration open?***

Registration for mite hockey opens on August 1. The mite season starts in mid to late October, depending on your player's age. Late registrations are allowed, but players who register late will not be guaranteed placement on a team with their friends and/or classmates.

### ***How old does my child have to be to play hockey (2021-22 season)?***

**M1:** Must be born before Born on or after June 1, 2014 to play – 4/6 age

**M2:** Must be born before Born on or after June 1, 2014 to play – 4/6 age

**M3:** Must be born before June 1, 2012 to May 31, 2014 to play – 7/8 age

**M4:** Must be born before June 1, 2012 to May 31, 2014 to play – 7/8 age

NOTE: MHDC Members and Coordinators will evaluate at the beginning of the season and throughout the year to ensure each child is in the correct program to maximize their learning potential based on their current skill performance.

### ***Does my child have to know how to skate to start hockey?***

No. The SYHA Mite program is a developmental program designed to teach all kids the fundamental skills necessary to play the game of hockey, as well as the elementary concepts of the game itself. Skating is the most fundamental of these skills and a major focus of the entire Mite program.

### ***How long does the season run?***

The season runs late Mid-October or early November through the third weekend of March.

### ***How often do they practice?***

- J M1 (ages 4-6): 2-3 sessions a week – Saturday/Sunday/one mid-week every other week
- J M2 (ages 4-6): 2-3 sessions a week – Saturday/Sunday/one mid-week every other week
- J M3/M3 Girls (6-8): 3 sessions a week – Saturday/Sunday/one mid-week
- J M4/M4 Girls (6-8): 3-4 sessions a week – Saturday/Sunday/one or two mid-week rotating

### ***At what Mite level do I register my child?***

ALL Players must register for the appropriate level according to their birth date. Players may not play up (or down) except in extremely rare circumstances. Shakopee Youth Hockey is in alignment with the governing body, Minnesota Hockey, with regards to this policy. Please refer to the SYHA Age Level Policy for further clarification.

### ***Will my child be placed with other children from his/her school?***

SYHA will make its best effort to organize all M1, M2 and M3 teams around schools, neighborhoods, and "play-with" requests. Players registering after the registration deadline are not guaranteed to be placed with "play-with" requests or their schools/neighborhoods.

Teams at the M4 levels are balanced by skill level following an on-ice evaluation of all players. SYHA and the M4 coaches will still make an effort to form the teams with the school in mind to increase the likelihood that the players will have friends on their team.

***Do I need the players' birth certificate in order to register?***

Yes. According to USA Hockey rules we cannot complete a registration without a copy of the players' official birth certificate. Hospital or baptismal certificates cannot be used.

If you registered your child with SYHA last year and submitted their birth certificate, we will have that birth certificate on file. If you are new to the program, USA Hockey requires us to get and retain a copy of the child's birth certificate before processing the registration forms.

***Can I help coach my child's team?***

Yes, as long as you complete the required steps to become certified as a mite coach through USA Hockey, Minnesota Hockey, and SYHA. You will be asked if you want to coach during the registration process for your player. You will also need to register as a coach and complete the certification steps before you can take the ice with your child.

***Will my child have practice at the same times every week?***

No. SYHA has access to two sheets of ice at the Shakopee Ice Arena. We will try to keep the Saturday & Sunday times and locations as consistent as possible however the mid-week sessions will be scheduled at different evening times as per our ice scheduler availability. Because of the complexity of scheduling mite practices for 15-20 teams alongside practices, games, and tournaments for more teams at older playing levels, the schedule varies by week, and is not always possible to guarantee the same schedule each week. Thank you in advance for your patience as our scheduler works to provide as much advance notice as possible for practice times.

***What is the refund policy if my child doesn't like it?***

Refunds are available through Dec 1st (and not processed until this time). The fee will be prorated for ice time skated and \$50 administration fees. All refunds must be requested in writing to the Registrar Team at registrar@Shakopeehockey.org.

***Equipment requirements***

- ) Certified Helmet -recommended Black
- ) Shin pads
- ) Elbow pads
- ) Mouth guard
- ) Skates
- ) Stick
- ) Cup or pelvic protector (w/ Velcro shorts to hold up the hockey socks)
- ) Breezers /Hockey pants - recommended black
- ) Shoulder pads

- ) Gloves – recommend black
- ) Hockey socks and jerseys will be provided at the first practice
- ) Neck guard (recommended)
- ) Equipment rental and a hockey gear trading weekend is offered

***Do I need to live in the Shakopee School District?***

YES. Minnesota Hockey requires us to ensure that all players are currently enrolled in a public/private school within the Shakopee School District OR live within the district boundaries. ALL registrations will be checked against district boundaries before being processed.

Open Enrollment and Private School (K-12) enrollment within District #720 attendance area will require school verification to be submitted (and waiver completed) to the SYHA Registrar before registrations will be accepted.

***Why are the fees higher for different Mite levels?***

The amount of ice time is increased at each Mite level. M1, M2, M3, and M4 levels also participate in several skills clinics throughout the year as part of the program. The costs of the skills clinics are built into the registration fees.

***What is the multi-skater discount?***

If a family has more than 2 hockey players within the Shakopee Hockey Association, they will not be required to participate in the SYHA fundraising programs. The first 2 players however will still be required to follow the fundraising protocols.

***Scholarships***

Limited scholarship funds are available for families needing special financial consideration. The SYHA board will approve all scholarships. Please note that a family's participation in the school's reduced/free lunch program is the prime criteria for scholarship consideration. Information regarding scholarships and to apply can be found on the website.

Contact registrar@Shakopeehockey.org for questions or further information.

Payment plans are not available. Initial registration fees for all players in the family are due at the time of registration.

***Can I add my team's schedule to my Google Calendar?***

Yes, just follow these steps:

1. Click the [iCal](#) link on your teams SYHA calendar page
2. Right-click the Shakopeehockey link then select **Copy**
3. Close the pop-up window
4. Open Google Calendar
5. Click the **Other calendars** drop down (right button)
6. Select **Add by URL**

7. Right-click in the pop-up URL text box then select **Paste**
8. Click **Add Calendar**
9. For More information you can check out the SportsEngine Parent Help Document