

2010 – 2011 8 & Under Membership Report

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Program Services Contact for Affiliate	Kevin Erlenbach
	(719) 538-1119/ kevine@usahockey.org





This report focuses on the foundation of USA Hockey's membership – the 8 & under age category. Analysis of USA Hockey's membership data has shown that growth in this age category will positively impact the larger 9 to 14 age group for years to come.

After three seasons of concentrated efforts to grow youth hockey participation in the 4 to 8 year old age category, there have been positive results. The age segment has seen a 17% increase in membership since the 2007-08 season, including a 10% increase in the 2010-11 season (see chart below). USA Hockey also surpassed 100,000 registered players in the 8 & under membership category for the first-time ever in the 2010-11 season.

The analysis contained in this report examines the membership in the 8 & under age category. On the National and Affiliate levels we are providing a summary for the past five seasons (2006-07 through 2010-11) and analysis for the past three seasons (2008-09 through 2010-11) on the local association level. This is done to help all levels of USA Hockey's structure understand their past performance in membership in this age category and to create reasonable growth goals for the 2011-12 season.

To continue to increase participation and membership, USA Hockey must remain focused on the following two key initiatives:

- Attracting new players each season in the key 4 to 8 year old age category
- Retaining participants from one season to the next in local youth hockey programs

Putting growth initiatives into action requires a coordinated effort between USA Hockey national staff and youth hockey volunteers at the grassroots level. USA Hockey provides resources for local associations to use in both the acquisition and retention of 4 to 8 year olds.

The 2 & 2 Challenge, explained in greater detail in this report, defines membership goals by asking youth associations to grow by acquiring two more players and retaining two more players than last season.

Combining growth of the game at the youngest age levels with USA Hockey's American Development Model (ADM) will ensure the future health of the game in the U.S.

HOW TO READ THE DATA CHARTS IN THIS REPORT

Number of players acquired -

Number of players that left youth hockey

BOYS & GIRL	.S_8U					2 AND 2 CHALLENGE			
	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	10-11 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	11-12 GOAL*
TOTAL	89956	89423	91622	95775	105394	101103	4291	9619	110902
	N/A	-0.6%	2.5%	4.5%	10.0%				
NEW	38943	38013	39580	41967	48254	44631	3623	6287	51008
	N/A	-2.4%	4.1%	6.0%	15.0%				
RET	51013	51410	52042	53808	57140	56472	668	3332	59894
	N/A	0.8%	1.2%	3.4%	6.2%				
LOST	14752	15899	15305	15184	15620	# OF ASSOCIATIONS		1377	
	N/A	7.8%	-3.7%	-0.8%	2.9%	AVERAGE # PLAYERS/ASSOCIATION			76.5

National 2 & 2 Challenge Goal for 2011-12. See page 5 for more information.



2010-11 KEY TAKEAWAYS—NATIONAL

Total

- The total number of children ages 8 & under registered in 2010-11 increased by 9,619 (10.0%) to 105,394.
- The 2010-11 season represents the third consecutive year of growth in the 8 & under age category and the largest-ever membership in this age group for USA Hockey.

Acquisition

- New players increased by 6,287 (15.0%) from 2010-11 to 48,254.
- Third consecutive year of growth for new players.

Retention

- Retained players increased by 3,332 (6.2%) to 57,140.
- The 2010-11 retention increase was the largest in the past five years and the fourth consecutive year of growth.

BOYS & GIRLS_8U								
	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11			
TOTAL	89956	89423	91622	95775	105394			
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LOST	14752	15899	15305	15184	15620			
	N/A	7.8%	-3.7%	-0.8%	2.9%			

BOYS_8U							
	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11		
TOTAL	77755	77128	78782	81978	89907		
	N/A	-0.8%	2.1%	4.1%	9.7%		
NEW	32487	31733	33013	34819	40058		
	N/A	-2.3%	4.0%	5.5%	15.0%		
RET	45268	45395	45769	47159	49849		
	N/A	0.3%	0.8%	3.0%	5.7%		
LOST	11881	12672	12161	11932	12350		
	N/A	6.7%	-4.0%	-1.9%	3.5%		
RR	58.2%	58.9%	58.1%	57.5%	55.4%		

GIRLS 8U					
	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11
TOTAL	12203	12295	12876	13798	15487
	N/A	0.8%	4.7%	7.2%	12.2%
NEW	6461	6285	6604	7149	8197
	N/A	-2.7%	5.1%	8.3%	14.7%
RET	5742	6010	6272	6649	7290
	N/A	4.7%	4.4%	6.0%	9.6%
LOST	2875	3234	3145	3253	3272
	N/A	12.5%	-2.8%	3.4%	0.6%
RR	47.1%	48.9%	48.7%	48.2%	47.1%



2010-11 KEY TAKEAWAYS—SOUTH DAKOTA

Total

- The total number of children ages 8 & under registered in South Dakota increased by 67 (10.6%) to 700.
- With 700 children playing during the 2010-11 season, it was the peak for the past five years.
- South Dakota has posted THREE consecutive years of overall growth, including a peak for both boys at 599 (7.5%) and girls at 101 (32.9%) over the past five years.

Acquisition – Three consecutive years of growth

- New players increased by 39 (13.1%) from 2009-10 to 336.
- The 2010-11 season marked the highest amount of new players, both boys and girls, entering the game over the past five years.

Retention - Three consecutive years of growth

Retained players increased by 28 (8.3%) from 2009-10 to 364.

BOYS & GIRLS_8 & UNDER_ SUMMARY							
	06-07 07-08 08-09 09-10 10-11						
TOTAL	588	573	605	633	700		
	N/A	-2.6%	5.6%	4.6%	10.6%		
NEW	264	259	287	297	336		
	N/A	-1.9%	10.8%	3.5%	13.1%		
RETAINED	324	314	318	336	364		
	N/A	-3.1%	1.3%	5.7%	8.3%		
LOST	101	138	124	126	115		
	N/A	36.6%	-10.1%	1.6%	-8.7%		

BOYS_8 & UNDER_ SUMMARY							
	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11		
TOTAL	498	495	522	557	599		
	N/A	-0.6%	5.5%	6.7%	7.5%		
NEW	215	221	240	258	277		
	N/A	2.8%	8.6%	7.5%	7.4%		
RETAINED	283	274	282	299	322		
	N/A	-3.2%	2.9%	6.0%	7.7%		
LOST	82	107	96	98	98		
	N/A	30.5%	-10.3%	2.1%	0.0%		

GIRLS_8 & UNDER_ SUMMARY							
	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11		
TOTAL	90	78	83	76	101		
	N/A	-13.3%	6.4%	-8.4%	32.9%		
NEW	49	38	47	39	59		
	N/A	-22.4%	23.7%	-17.0%	51.3%		
RETAINED	41	40	36	37	42		
	N/A	-2.4%	-10.0%	2.8%	13.5%		
LOST	19	32	28	28	17		
	N/A	68.4%	-12.5%	0.0%	-39.3%		



RETENTION INCREASES WITH AGE

The older a player gets and/or the more seasons a player plays, the more likely that player will stick with youth hockey. So while retention rates are high from Squirts on up, the overall growth of hockey relies on acquiring more 4 to 8 year olds.

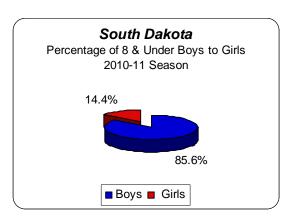
South Dakota's retention results for 2010-11 by age segment:

- 29.5% of all 4 Year Olds returned as 5 Year Olds National Average 34.3%
- **48.9% of all 5 Year Olds returned as 6 Year Olds** National Average 52.3%
- **68.0% of all 6 Year Olds returned as 7 Year Olds** National Average 67.0%
- **74.9% of all 7 Year Olds returned as 8 Year Olds** National Average 74.9%
- 75.9% of all Squirts returned in 2010-11 National Average 83.9%
- 84.7% of all Pee Wees returned in 2010-11 National Average 90.5%
- 90.8% of all Bantams returned in 2010-11 National Average 94.0%

RATIO OF BOYS TO GIRLS - 8 & Under

Boys represented 85.6% of all 8 & unders in South Dakota in 2010-11 while girls represented 14.4%.

Nationally, boys represented 85.2% of all 8 & unders in 2010-11 while girls represented 14.8%.





2 & 2 CHALLENGE

The 2 & 2 Challenge is a call to action for local associations. It is designed to provide an attainable goal for growth at the 4 to 8 age group, regardless of the size of the local youth association.

Example:

Each association acquires two more players than last year.

2010-11: if your association added 22 new players, your 2011-12 goal is to acquire:
22 players + 2 more = 24 new players

Each association retains two more players than last year.

2010-11: if your association retained 30 players, your 2011-12 goal is to retain:
30 players + 2 more = 32 retained players

RESULTS: Meeting this challenge could help this association grow by 7.7% and contribute to the overall growth of the game.

NATIONAL 2 & 2 CHALLENGE

2010-11: RESULTS

- Surpassed 10-11 goal by 4,291 players
 - o Surpassed acquisition goal by 3,623
 - o Surpassed retention goal by 668

2011-12: GOALS

- Based on 1,377 associations
 - o 2,754 players acquired (2 per association)
 - o 2,754 players retained (2 per association)
- 2011-12 goal is 110,902 (5.2% increase) total 4 to 8 year olds

	2010-11	2010-11	2011-12
NATIONAL	GOAL	ACTUAL	GOAL
TOTAL	101,103	105,394	110,902
NEW	44,631	48,254	51,008
RETAINED	56,472	57,140	59,894

AFFILIATE 2 & 2 CHALLENGE: SOUTH DAKOTA

2010-11: RESULTS

- Achieved overall growth and met the 2 & 2 Challenge
 - Surpassed acquisition goal by 19
 - Surpassed retention goal by 8

2011-12: GOALS

- Based on 10 associations that registered 5 players or more in the age group
 - o 20 kids acquired (2 per association)
 - o 20 kids retained (2 per association)
- 2011-12 goal is 740 (5.7% increase) total 4 to 8 year old players

SOUTH DAKOTA	2010-11 GOAL	2010-11 ACTUAL	2011-12 GOAL
TOTAL	673	700	740
NEW	317	336	356
RETAINED	356	364	384



ASSOCIATIONS ACCOMPLISHING THE 2 & 2 CHALLENGE

Congratulations to Rushmore Hockey Association, Mitchell Skating and Hockey Association, Aberdeen Hockey Association, and Watertown Hockey Association (highlighted in yellow below) for successfully meeting the 2 & 2 Challenge! South Dakota had a successful growth year and met the 2 & 2 Challenge! While many associations had tremendous growth, only four were able to successfully meet all requirements of the 2 & 2 Challenge.

SOUTH DAKOTA'S 2010-11 ASSOCIATION PERFORMANCE

<u>Associa</u>	<u>ation</u>	<u>Net Growth</u>
1.	Rushmore Hockey Association	+31
2.	Mitchell Skating and Hockey Association	+14
3.	Aberdeen Hockey Association	+11
4.	Watertown Hockey Association	+11
5.	Big Stone Lake Area Hockey	+3
6.	Huron Hockey Association	+3
7.	Sioux Falls Youth Hockey Association	+2
8.	Yankton Area Ice Association	0
9.	Oahe Hockey Association	-7
10.	Brookings Ice Skating Association	-9

SOUTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATIONS

SDH0118 ABERDEEN HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

BOYS & GIRLS_8 & UNDER				2 AND 2 CHALLENGE			
	08-09	09-10	10-11	10-11 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	11-12 GOAL
TOTAL	48	57	68	61	7	11	72
NEW	29	30	39	32	7	9	41
RETAINED	19	27	29	29	0	2	31
LOST	9	10	15				

BOYS_8 & UNDER				GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	08-09	09-10	10-11		08-09	09-10	10-11	
TOTAL	34	44	47	TOTAL	14	13	21	
NEW	20	24	24	NEW	9	6	15	
RETAINED	14	20	23	RETAINED	5	7	6	
LOST	9	6	10	LOST	0	4	5	
RATIO BOYS TO GIRLS			69.1%				30.9%	

SDH0131 BIG STONE LAKE AREA HOCKEY

BOYS & GIRLS_8	BOYS & GIRLS_8 & UNDER				2 AND 2 CHALLENGE				
	08-09	09-10	10-11	10-11 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	11-12 GOAL		
TOTAL	11	8	11	12	(1)	3	15		
NEW	5	2	7	4	3	5	9		
RETAINED	6	6	4	8	(4)	(2)	6		
LOST	9	6	0						

BOYS_8 & UNDER				GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	08-09	09-10	10-11		08-09	09-10	10-11	
TOTAL	10	7	10	TOTAL	1	1	1	
NEW	5	2	6	NEW	0	0	1	
RETAINED	5	5	4	RETAINED	1	1	0	
LOST	5	6	0	LOST	4	0	0	
RATIO BOYS TO GIRLS			90.9%				9.1%	

SDH0119 BROOKINGS ICE SKATING ASSOCIATION

BOYS & GIRLS_8 & UNDER				2 AND 2 CHALLENGE			
	08-09	09-10	10-11	10-11 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	11-12 GOAL
TOTAL	83	77	68	81	(13)	(9)	72
NEW	30	26	21	28	(7)	(5)	23
RETAINED	53	51	47	53	(6)	(4)	49
LOST	21	12	10				

BOYS_8 & UNDER				GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	08-09	09-10	10-11		08-09	09-10	10-11	
TOTAL	75	68	56	TOTAL	8	9	12	
NEW	28	22	13	NEW	2	4	8	
RETAINED	47	46	43	RETAINED	6	5	4	
LOST	17	10	8	LOST	4	2	2	
RATIO BOYS TO GIRLS 82.4%			82.4%				17.6%	

SDH0116 HURON HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

BOYS & GIRLS_8 & UNDER				2 AND 2 CHALLENGE				
	08-09	09-10	10-11	10-11 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	11-12 GOAL	
TOTAL	46	41	44	45	(1)	3	48	
NEW	24	19	22	21	1	3	24	
RETAINED	22	22	22	24	(2)	0	24	
LOST	18	14	13					

BOYS_8 & UNDER				GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	08-09	09-10	10-11		08-09	09-10	10-11	
TOTAL	39	38	34	TOTAL	7	3	10	
NEW	17	16	15	NEW	7	3	7	
RETAINED	22	22	19	RETAINED	0	0	3	
LOST 12 8 11		11	LOST	6	6	2		
RATIO BOYS TO GIRLS			77.3%				22.7%	

SDH0124 MITCHELL SKATING AND HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

BOYS & GIRLS_8 & UNDER				2 AND 2 CHALLENGE				
	08-09	09-10	10-11	10-11 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	11-12 GOAL	
TOTAL	60	53	67	57	10	14	71	
NEW	24	18	30	20	10	12	32	
RETAINED	36	35	37	37	0	2	39	
LOST	6	11	6					

BOYS_8 & UNDER				GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	08-09	09-10	10-11		08-09	09-10	10-11	
TOTAL	48	46	56	TOTAL	12	7	11	
NEW	19	16	24	NEW	5	2	6	
RETAINED	29	30	32	RETAINED	7	5	5	
LOST	3	7	5	LOST	3	4	1	
RATIO BOYS TO GIRLS			83.6%				16.4%	

SDH0127 OAHE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

BOYS & GIRLS_8 & UNDER				2 AND 2 CHALLENGE				
	08-09	09-10	10-11	10-11 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	11-12 GOAL	
TOTAL	57	52	45	56	(11)	(7)	49	
NEW	19	25	18	27	(9)	(7)	20	
RETAINED	38	27	27	29	(2)	0	29	
LOST	9	17	8					

BOYS_8 & UNDE	BOYS_8 & UNDER				GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	08-09	09-10	10-11		08-09	09-10	10-11		
TOTAL	47	46	43	TOTAL	10	6	2		
NEW	14	21	18	NEW	5	4	0		
RETAINED	33	25	25	RETAINED	5	2	2		
LOST	3	11	6	LOST	6	6	2		
RATIO BOYS TO GIRLS			95.6%				4.4%		

SDH0129 RUSHMORE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

BOYS & GIRLS_8 & UNDER				2 AND 2 CHALLENGE			
	08-09	09-10	10-11	10-11 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	11-12 GOAL
TOTAL	93	106	137	110	27	31	141
NEW	51	58	70	60	10	12	72
RETAINED	42	48	67	50	17	19	69
LOST	16	21	16				

BOYS_8 & UNDER				GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	08-09	09-10	10-11		08-09	09-10	10-11	
TOTAL	81	89	121	TOTAL	12	17	16	
NEW	45	49	64	NEW	6	9	6	
RETAINED	36	40	57	RETAINED	6	8	10	
LOST	14	18	13	LOST	2	3	3	
RATIO BOYS TO GIRLS			88.3%				11.7%	

SDH0117 SIOUX FALLS YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

BOYS & GIRLS_8 & UNDER				2 AND 2 CHALLENGE				
	08-09	09-10	10-11	10-11 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	11-12 GOAL	
TOTAL	159	162	164	166	(2)	2	168	
NEW	85	79	73	81	(8)	(6)	75	
RETAINED	74	83	91	85	6	8	93	
LOST	28	35	30					

BOYS_8 & UNDER				GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	08-09	09-10	10-11		08-09	09-10	10-11	
TOTAL	149	149	153	TOTAL	10	13	11	
NEW	77	71	69	NEW	8	8	4	
RETAINED	72	78	84	RETAINED	2	5	7	
LOST	26	33	28	LOST	2	2	2	
RATIO BOYS TO GIRLS			93.3%				6.7%	

SDH0120 WATERTOWN HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

BOYS & GIRLS_8 & UNDER				2 AND 2 CHALLENGE			
	08-09	09-10	10-11	10-11 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	11-12 GOAL
TOTAL	33	35	46	39	7	11	50
NEW	15	18	25	20	5	7	27
RETAINED	18	17	21	19	2	4	23
LOST	6	4	7				

BOYS_8 & UNDER				GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	08-09	09-10	10-11		08-09	09-10	10-11	
TOTAL	30	34	39	TOTAL	3	1	7	
NEW	13	17	19	NEW	2	1	6	
RETAINED	17	17	20	RETAINED	1	0	1	
LOST	5	2	7	LOST	1	2	0	
RATIO BOYS TO GIRLS			84.8%				15.2%	

SDH0121 YANKTON AREA ICE ASSOCIATION

BOYS & GIRLS_8 & UNDER				2 AND 2 CHALLENGE				
	08-09	09-10	10-11	10-11 GOAL	VS. GOAL	VS. ACTUAL	11-12 GOAL	
TOTAL	24	27	27	31	(4)	0	31	
NEW	17	11	15	13	2	4	17	
RETAINED	7	16	12	18	(6)	(4)	14	
LOST	3	1	5					

BOYS_8 & UNDER				GIRLS_8 & UNDER				
	08-09	09-10	10-11		08-09	09-10	10-11	
TOTAL	22	24	22	TOTAL	2	3	5	
NEW	15	9	13	NEW	2	2	2	
RETAINED	7	15	9	RETAINED	0	1	3	
LOST	2	1	5	LOST	1	0	0	
RATIO BOYS TO GIRLS			81.5%				18.5%	