

## Schedule Preview

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Dear DPYH Families –

After getting some feedback from last year, we wanted to be proactive and share expectations as to what can be anticipated for games at the Squirt through Bantam levels.

Although individual team input, cancellations and uncontrolled events will impact number of games, generally Squirts will play between 25-32 games, PeeWees 30-35 games, and Bantams 32-40 games (including tournaments and playdowns). I will attempt to schedule games for the majority of the season and tournament(s), with the goal of 65-75% of the schedule in place by the time teams are established. The remaining games/tournaments will be filled in collaboration with coaches/team managers, and will take into consideration individual team dynamics, desired "off weekends," and game/travel preferences.

Most teams should anticipate games beginning the first or second weekend of November, with the Bantam A team currently scheduled to play in Marquette, MI the last weekend of October. The association has historically scheduled Squirts to play over the opening weekend of gun-deer hunting, while not scheduling for PeeWees and Bantams. This year, DPYH will host the inaugural DPYH SQC Deer Hunter Classic and are encouraging all the non-hunting PeeWee & Bantam families to come to the rink and support our Squirt C's.

Thanksgiving – Games may be scheduled the weekend of Thanksgiving, but intent would be to try and keep these nearby (home, GB, Appleton, Fox Valley).

Christmas – With Christmas landing on a Wednesday, I anticipate "local" games the weekend before, with practices cancelled this week. Individual teams will have the opportunity to schedule the following weekend.

Playdowns – Scheduled first weekend of February. Details TBD

Away tournaments – Based on input from the Op's Committee, the current invitational tournaments planned for each team include the following:

- Squirt C – 11/23 – 11/24 (Home tournament) & 2/14 – 2/16 (Rhineland)
- Squirt B – 12/6 – 12/8 (Tomah) & 2/14 – 2/16 (Rhineland)
- Squirt A – 12/6 – 12/8 (Tomah) & 1/18-1/19 (Waupun)
- PeeWee C – 1/17 – 1/18 (Rhineland) & 2/28-3/1 (Wausau)
- PeeWee B – 12/13 – 12/15 (Sun Prairie) & 2/21-2/23 (Rhineland)
- PeeWee A – 1/10 – 1/12 (Tomah) & 2/7 – 2/9 (Wausau)
- Bantam B – 1/10 – 1/12 (Rhineland) & 2/28-3/1 (Lake Delton)
- Bantam A – 10/25-10/27 (Marquette "showcase") & 1/17 – 1/19 (Sun Prairie)

I recognize the hectic schedule that comes with the hockey season (and potential that some of this could change), but hopefully this insight is helpful as we approach the start of a new season and we balance scheduling needs.