

# MINNESOTA HOCKEY DISTRICT 2019 – 2020 GOVERNING RULES

## Mite Program Rules

### 1.2.4 Initiation/Mite/8U

MITE HOCKEY – MH strongly encourages the skill level development of all players. This is particularly critical at the Mite level so that players are provided with the foundation to enjoy and have success in the game.

In an effort to reduce travel expense and promote development rather than competition, Mite teams shall participate within their home association and district only. On an exception basis, the District Director(s) may, for convenience or to maintain continuity, permit a team to play outside the district. The District Director's decision is final.

2. Mites are usually divided into levels based on age, skill and the number of players in the association. As a guideline, Mites should be divided into two levels: Mini-Mites (6 & Under) - the younger, beginner and less skilled players; and Mites (8 & Under) - the older, experienced, more skilled players.

3. The focus for Mites is to teach and develop the basic skills of skating, puck handling, shooting and passing. Cross- ice, half-ice and small area games (Red, White and Blue) are recommended to maximize ice utilization, increase puck touches and increase the competition and fun. The American Development Model (ADM) provides the overall blue print for player development.

4. At the Mini-Mite (6 & Under) level – all games shall be played cross or half ice.

5. At the Mite (8 and Under) level – the standard playing surface for all games is cross- or half-ice. Recognizing that associations may want to deviate from the standard, after December 31st up to six (6) full-ice games are allowed.

6. Local hockey associations are in the best position to design their programs to provide an experience where players can develop and have fun. This should be based on the principles of ADM, Red, White and Blue, the number of players in their program, the skill of their players, the availability of ice and their coaching staff.

7. In recognition of a need for flexibility and differences between associations, the guidelines outlined in #4 and #5 above will be monitored by the District Director. Abuses will result in sanctions against the respective association(s) at the sole discretion of the Director.

8. MH does not permit full ice Mite Tournaments; cross/half ice Mite Tournaments are allowed with restrictions as determined by the Tournament Committee (see Tournament Supplement). MH Mite teams cannot participate in out- of-state tournaments, except cross/half ice tournaments as approved by their District Director.

9. Jamborees may be conducted at the Mite level. A jamboree is defined as a low-key full participation event where players have an enjoyable and learning experience in a non-competitive environment. Jamborees need not be registered as tournaments, but must follow the “Team Rest” provisions as provided for under “Playing Rules”. The format for a Jamboree shall be as follows:

- a. Approval to conduct a Jamboree must be obtained from the cognizant District Director at least thirty (30) days in advance.
- b. All teams must be from one MH District, unless approved in writing by the MH Directors involved.
- c. Information referring to the event must state “Jamboree”, not tournament.
- d. Team fees can cover only costs for ice time, officials, medical attendants and participant awards.
- e. There can be no gate fee. A free-will donation box will be permitted.
- f. USA Hockey certified officials must be used.
- g. No score may be kept, no winners, no losers, no standings. This will generally require a predetermined round- robin format to be followed. No statistics may be kept, such as shots, saves, goals, assists, time of possession, etc. Participation awards, if given, shall be the same for all participants. No team awards or trophies.
  - a. There is to be no travel or play outside the District unless prior approval from the District Director is received. The first violation will result in a 2 week suspension to the Head coach and a \$500 fine to the association. Any subsequent violations will result in the suspension of the right of that association to participate with any team outside their home association pending a hearing of the District2disciplinecommittee.