

SFYHA 2025-2026 Mite Program Overview

In the 2025-2026 season, Mite players will have the option to register for the Mite Travel Program or Mite City League Program. Based on estimated numbers of participants for the 2025-2026 season, SFYHA will again be fielding four groups – or “tiers” – of Mites. Players who register for Mite Travel will preliminarily be sorted into Travel Tiers 1 and 2 for an initial evaluation. Based on a number of factors such as recommendations from coaches, number of years in hockey, and age, the more skilled players will start in Travel Tier 1 and the less skilled players will start in Travel Tier 2. Players who register for Mite City League will be sorted into City Tiers 3 and 4 for an initial evaluation. Again, the more skilled players will start in City Tier 3 and less skilled players will start in City Tier 4.

During the first two weeks of the SFYHA season, Mite players will attend practice with their assigned Tier. This two-week period will serve as an initial evaluation – similar to an extended tryout – for coaches to evaluate all players among their peers and make recommendations to the Director of Hockey for final Tier placement. Players may be moved during or at the expiration of the evaluation period. At the conclusion of the evaluation period, final Tier placement will be announced, and players will report to their assigned Tier going forward. Shortly after Tier placements are announced, team assignments within each Tier will also be published.

To be placed in Mite Travel Tiers 1 or 2, a player must demonstrate a minimum skill level as determined by the Director of Hockey. Accordingly, while any Mite player may register for Mite Travel, not all players may remain in the Mite Travel Tiers after the evaluation period. Any player registered for Mite Travel, but not ultimately placed in Mite Travel Tier 1 or 2, will be reassigned to Mite City League Tier 3 or 4 and the difference in fees will be credited to player fundraiser fee. Players of all experience and skill levels may participate in Mite City League.

A program overview for each Tier is below:

	Tier	Program Overview
T R A V E L L E A G U E	Tier 1 Travel Up to 36 Players	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 practices per week 3-4 half-ice tournaments/jamborees per season Up to 10 half-ice games per season 2-3 travel teams Does <u>not</u> participate in Sunday Night City League Games
	Tier 2 Travel Up to 36 players	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 practices per week 3 half-ice tournaments/jamborees per season 2-3 travel teams Sunday Night City League Games and End of Year Tournament except on weekends of tournaments/jamborees
C I T Y	Tier 3 City Up to 40 players Minimum 32 players	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players sorted into four City League teams (8-10 players) 2 practices per week Sunday Night City League Games and End of Year Tournament

L E A G U E	Tier 4 City Up to 40 players Minimum 32 players	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players sorted into four City League teams (8-10 players) • 2 practices per week • Sunday Night City League Games and End of Year Tournament
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Players of all skill levels who are interested in additional ice time are encouraged to enroll in Learn to Skate through the Sioux Falls Figure Skating Club.

*Note-Mite Tier 2 will not have games on weekends or tournaments. Mite Tier 2 “City” rosters will be different than Mite Tier 2 “Travel” rosters.