



Annual Hockey Director's Meeting

August 2016

New Jersey Youth Hockey League



Topics For Today's Meeting

- ▶ Meet the Staff
- ▶ Hockey Director's Responsibilities
- ▶ USA Hockey Coaching
 - ▶ Philosophy
 - ▶ Coaching Education and Certification Requirements
 - ▶ Skills Progression for Coaches
- ▶ USA Hockey Rules, Regulations and Penalties
- ▶ NJYHL Rules, Schedules and Participation
- ▶ Game Management Expectations
- ▶ Officiating and Assigning
- ▶ American Development Model (ADM)
- ▶ NJ Devils Grassroots
- ▶ Questions
- ▶ Links



Meet The Staff

- ▶ Anthony D'Anna
 - ▶ NJYHL Coach in Chief
 - ▶ dannaelect@verizon.net
- ▶ Jose Lanza
 - ▶ NJYHL Associate Coach in Chief - South
 - ▶ J.lanza5@verizon.net
- ▶ Rich Hansen
 - ▶ USA Hockey ADM Regional Manager - Atlantic and NY
 - ▶ richardh@usahockey.org
- ▶ Maureen Thompson-Siegel
 - ▶ NJYHL and AAHA Secretary
 - ▶ AAHA ADM Coordinator
 - ▶ aaahadmcoordinator@gmail.com and secretary.njyhl@gmail.com



What are a Hockey Director's Responsibilities in the NJYHL?

- ▶ Be the "feet on the ground" hockey professional
- ▶ Design and implement a plan of development for your club
- ▶ Know the science behind child development, skill development and USA Hockey's recommendations
- ▶ Train your coaches to deliver skill development in a consistent manner throughout the club
- ▶ Disseminate information from USA Hockey, Atlantic Affiliate and New Jersey Youth Hockey to your coaches and families
- ▶ Instill an understanding of acceptable behavior in spectators and players
 - ▶ The AAHA overarching "theme" for this season is RESPECT.





USA Hockey Coaching

Credentials and Training Requirements



USA Hockey Coaching Philosophy

COACHING ETHICS

- ▶ **COMPETENCE** Maintain a standard of excellence with regard to education and information related to coaching and make an on-going effort to maintain competence in the skills they use.
- ▶ **INTEGRITY** Exercise integrity in the practice of coaching and be honest, fair and respectful of others.
- ▶ **PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY** Uphold professional standards, clarify professional roles and obligations, accept appropriate responsibility for behavior and adapt methods to the needs of participants.
- ▶ **RESPECT FOR PARTICIPANTS** Respect the fundamental rights, welfare, dignity, values, opinions and worth of all participants and will be aware of cultural and individual differences including those due to age, gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, disability, language and socio-economic status.
- ▶ **CONCERN FOR PARTICIPANTS** Be sensitive to different roles and responsibilities of all participants and not exploit or mislead them.
- ▶ **RESPONSIBLE COACHING** Be aware of ethical responsibilities to society and the community in which they work and live as well as comply with the law and encourage the development of policies which serve the interest of the sport and USA Hockey.



USA Hockey Coaching Education Program Seminar Attendance Requirements

USA Hockey mandates that all coaches progress through a series of Coaching Education classes as they continue to participate as a coach of youth hockey.

- ▶ All coaches must register with USA Hockey as a coach
- ▶ All coaches may attend only one (1) certification clinic per year.
- ▶ Coaches who do not coach in continuous years must re-enter the CEP program at the next level when they resume coaching responsibilities.
- ▶ All coaches must enter at Level 1, and must continue their education with a coaching clinic each year until, at a minimum, they achieve Level 3.
- ▶ **EXCEPTION:** Coaches of 8U or younger players may remain at Level 1 or their current level.



USA Hockey Coaching Education Program Seminar Attendance Requirements

- ▶ Once Level 3 is achieved, periodic renewal is required for coaches who have not achieved Level 4. The initial Level 3 certification is valid for two seasons, as indicated by the expiration date. There are two Recertification Tracks (1 and 2) which are also valid for two seasons each. A Level 3 coach must either take one of the Recertification Tracks or move up to Level 4 when each two year validation period expires. A Level 3 coach must advance to Level 4 at the end of the sixth (6th) season of a Level 3 certification.
- ▶ **Coaches of national tournament bound teams (Tier I 14U, 16U and 18/19U and Tier II 16U and 18/19U) must complete Level 4 in their fourth season of coaching.** Coaches who attain Level 4 certification are not required to attend any further certification clinics but must adhere to the age-specific requirement as outlined in Paragraph (b) below.



USA Hockey Coaching Education Program Seminar Attendance - NJYHL Update

- ▶ If a coach **fails** to meet the Coaching Education Program requirements for the current season by December 31st, **the coach will be ineligible to coach in the NJYHL for a minimum of 45 days and a maximum of one year, starting at the beginning of the following season.**
- ▶ That coach will not be permitted to return until all CEP Requirements are met, with final approval from League Commissioner and Coach-in-Chief.
- ▶ **Explanation** There is a loophole where a coach can avoid being CEP compliant if they do not make playoffs. This ensures that coaches will attain the proper CEP credentials.
- ▶ NJYHL will be collecting information from you (as the Hockey Director) on all coaches before December 31st and will make determinations on eligibility based on this information.



Additional Certification Requirements

ON LINE AGE-SPECIFIC MODULES

- ▶ All coaches must complete the on-line age-specific training module for the level of play they are coaching.
- ▶ There is no limit to the number of modules completed in a single season but the coach must have completed the age-specific module for the level being coached during the current season. They are available September 1st.

SAFE SPORT CERTIFICATION

- ▶ Beginning with the 2015-2016 season, USA Hockey will not approve any roster that includes a Head Coach that is not Safe Sport certified. Assistant coaches and managers that are not certified will be red-lined but their lack of certification will not hold up roster approval.
- ▶ Safe Sport Certification is valid for two years. There are two levels of this training offered. An initial on-line training and a refresher on-line training. All coaches (and team managers) that never took the initial training will be required to do so before they can take the ice. All those that were certified in the 2013-2014 season must take the refresher course before they can take the ice.



Additional Certification Requirements

BACKGROUND SCREENING

- ▶ All coaches (and managers) 18 years of age or older are required by the Atlantic Affiliate (AAHA) to have secured an on-line background screening by October 30th of the current playing season or within thirty (30) days after beginning an activity if such activity occurs after the October 30th deadline. Each screening is good for two seasons.
- ▶ Should a coach change organizations, the coach must be re-screened even if their current screening is still valid.



Under Age (Student) Coaches

- ▶ Age 13 through 17 who is currently properly registered with USA Hockey as a player.
- ▶ Requirements include:
 - ▶ Attendance at a training session at the local club or audit a Level 1 CEP clinic
 - ▶ Must always be supervised by an approved, rostered coach
 - ▶ During games (cannot act as assistant or head coach at any time and counts as one of 4 team officials permitted)
 - ▶ Practices (cannot act as assistant or head coach at any time)
 - ▶ Must wear a helmet with full face shield, gloves and skates at practices and helmet on bench during games while on the bench
 - ▶ May not participate as a player in games or scrimmages when acting as a Student Coach
 - ▶ May only work with players at least one age level below his/her own
- ▶ Registration forms must be submitted through the club Registrar to USA Hockey.



Atlantic Affiliate CEP Seminar Schedule

Date	Levels	Location
May 21-22	1-4	Allentown, PA
August 20-21	1-3	Voorhees, NJ
August 27	1-3	Newark, NJ
September 10	1-3	Newark, NJ
September 10-11	1-3	Bethlehem, PA
October 2	1-3	Chalfont, PA
December 3-4	1-3	Bethlehem, PA
		(as of July 10 th)



Skills Progression For Coaches

For the betterment of your club and for the sport



Coaching Development

Level	Fun, Active, Age Appropriate	Game Knowledge	Station Based Practices & Small Area Games	Individual Skill Development	Hockey Sense	Systems (team play training)
Mite	X	Basic	X	85%	15%	0%
Squirt	X	Rules	X	75%	15%	10%
Pee Wee	X	Team Support	X	65%	25%	10%
Bantam	X	Team Play Situations	X	50%	35%	15%
Midget	X	Learning to Compete	X	50%	25-30%	20-25%

Coaching Development

Level	Speed and Suppleness	Skill Acquisition	Stamina and Strength	Body Contact	Off Ice Training	Emotional Intelligence
Mite	X					Be a good team member
Squirt	X	X		Prevent injury	Agility and balance	Respect
Pee Wee		X		Body checking	Agility and balance	Take responsibility
Bantam	X		X	Body checking	Speed, strength, range of motion	Handling adversity
Midget	X		X		Importance of warming up	Honesty and integrity



Rules Regulations and Penalties

USA Hockey and New Jersey Youth Hockey League



USA Hockey Rules and Regulations

HELMETS

- ▶ All ice hockey coaches and instructors of registered USA Hockey Youth 18 & Under and below, high school, girls'/women's 19 & under and below, and disabled programs must properly wear **an approved ice hockey helmet** during all on-ice sessions, including practices, controlled scrimmages and all Coaching Education Program clinics and/or workshops.
- ▶ Penalty for not wearing a helmet is a minimum thirty (30) day suspension.



USA Hockey Rules and Regulations

PROGRESSIVE SUSPENSIONS - PLAYERS

- ▶ USA Hockey Rule 411 states:
 - ▶ Any player who receives their **third** major penalty during the same season for any combination of aggressive infractions shall receive an **additional three game suspension**.
 - ▶ Any player who receives their **fourth** major penalty shall receive an **additional five game suspension**.
 - ▶ Any player who receives their **fifth** major penalty shall be **suspended until a hearing is conducted by the Affiliate**.
 - ▶ These suspensions are in addition to any others imposed through the official playing rules.



USA Hockey Rules and Regulations

PROGRESSIVE SUSPENSIONS - COACHES

- ▶ USA Hockey Rule 411 states:
 - ▶ Any team who receives **three major penalties in the same game** shall have its Head Coach **suspended for the next game** for that team.
 - ▶ **Any subsequent game** where the team receives three or more major penalties in the same game the Head Coach shall serve a **three game suspension**.
 - ▶ **For the third game** with three or more major penalties by the same team during the same season, the Head Coach shall be **suspended indefinitely** until a hearing has been conducted by the Atlantic Affiliate.
 - ▶ These suspensions are in addition to any others imposed through the official playing rules.



USA Hockey Rules and Regulations

Rule 411 Aggressive Infractions Include			
603 Boarding	608 Checking from Behind	620 Head Contact	634 Slashing
604 Body Checking	609 Cross Checking	621 High Stick	635 Spearing
606 Butt Ending	611 Elbowing	627 Kicking	639 Tripping/Clipping
607 Charging	619 Head Butting	628 Kneeing	640 Roughing
There is a separate progressive suspension rule for fighting			

Organizations and players are responsible for tracking the progressive suspensions assessed. Coaches and players can be suspended for violation.



Tournaments

- ▶ Any tournament that your teams participate should be a USA Hockey sanctioned tournament.
- ▶ Sanctioned tournaments provide consistent
 - ▶ Rules
 - ▶ Penalty assessments
 - ▶ Age categories
 - ▶ Insurance coverage
- ▶ The AAHA Registrar keeps a list of the sanctioned tournaments in our Affiliate.





USA Hockey rules govern except as modified in the NJYHL Guidebook



NJYHL Rules and Regulations 2016-2017 Season Changes

- ▶ 14. A player cannot compete in the league if he is also rostered on a Tier I Youth team.
- ▶ 14 (B). An organization may move **one player per age level** who is rostered on a Tier I youth team prior to October 16th (Squirt, Pee Wee, Bantam) or September 16th (Midget) to a Tier II youth team. **If an organization wishes to move more than one player per level or a player at any level after the above dates requires approval of the Commissioner of the NJYHL before the player can be moved.** At no point can a player be rostered on a Tier I roster and an NJYHL roster at the same time.
- ▶ **NEW RULE**
Any player who is rostered on a Junior team in the current season cannot be moved to an NJYHL roster without written permission from the Commissioner. The club must submit in writing to the Commissioner explaining the reason for the move prior to permission being granted. At no point can a player be on a Junior roster and an NJYHL roster at the same time.



NJYHL Rules and Regulations 2016-2017 Season Changes

- ▶ 53. When a player, coach or other team official receives a game misconduct, or match penalty in a NJYHL game, that suspension must be served in the immediate subsequent League game(s). This is independent of any USA Hockey suspension incurred, although they may be served concurrently.

Note: If the next scheduled game is non-league, the USA Hockey penalty must be served in that game with the League suspension being served in the next League game.

Note: If the penalty is assessed at the end of the season, the suspension shall follow the player, coach or other team official in the event he/she joins another NJYHL organization the following season.

NJYHL Rules and Regulations 2016-2017 Season Changes

- ▶ 83 B. If two or more teams are tied in total points, the standings will be determined using the following criteria:
 - i. Team having the most wins in all league games.
 - ii. Team having accrued the most points among the tied teams (head to head).
 - iii. Team having the most wins among the tied teams.
 - iv. Team with the fewest goals against among the tied teams.
 - v. Team having the fewest goals against in all league games.

- ▶ **NEW RULE**

All NJYHL Referee Assignors are required to use the league designated online scheduling tool to schedule league games. Failure to do so may result in the assignor being replaced by the NJYHL Referee in Chief.

NJYHL Rules and Regulations 2016-2017 Season Changes

Rule changes that were approved at the 2016 Annual Meeting include:

- ▶ 89. Each team participating in the League Playoffs will play under a format set up by the administrative vice-president.
 - A. All games will be played to a winner. If the game is tied following regulation play, the tied teams shall receive a one-minute rest period. Teams will change ends at the end of regulation time and after each overtime period. There will be a first goal wins overtime under the following format:
 - ▶ 1. The teams will play a five (5) minute period at 3-on-3. If at the end of the overtime period a tie still exists, the two teams will continue playing five (5) minute 3-on-3 overtime periods until there is a winner.
 - ▶ 2. Any skater on the team may be used. Changing on the fly is permitted. There will be a one-minute break at the end of every third overtime period.
 - ▶ 3. Any unexpired penalty incurred in the third period will carry over into the overtime period as a 4-on-3 (5-on-3 if there are more than one penalties carrying over).
 - ▶ 4. If a penalty is assessed in the overtime periods the non-offending team will add a player (4-on-3). If a second penalty is assessed before the first has expired than the non-offending team will add a fifth player (5-on-3).
 - ▶ 5. If the non-offending team does not score during the power play - then the on-ice strength will continue at 4-on-4 (5-on-5 if two penalties had been assessed) until a stoppage of play when the teams will resume play at 3-on-3.
 - ▶ 6. If coincidental penalties are called - the teams will continue to skate at 3-on-3.



Team Registration and Rostering

- ▶ USA Hockey Rosters must be submitted to NJYHL Registrar before the first NJYHL game is played
- ▶ 20 players maximum; 10 players minimum
- ▶ 8 player movements between teams through 12/31 (excluding goalies)
- ▶ A player cannot be rostered on more than one NJYHL team
- ▶ Players must be rostered to participate at all times



League Schedule

- ▶ All games are scheduled (or re-scheduled) by the Master Scheduler and must be entered into Scorekeeper before the start of the season (rosters too)
- ▶ Any game changes once the schedules are final require Admin VP approval and concurrence of both clubs
- ▶ All games **MUST** be played - no FORFEITS - there are fines
- ▶ All midget short season teams cannot black out any weekends between September 1 and October 21
- ▶ Two full periods must be played for game to be official - must be stop time - no running clock - 10 goal mercy rule
- ▶ It is recommended non-league games follow the same rules as NJYHL games
- ▶ Any player on the bench or in the penalty box must have a helmet on at all times
- ▶ Must have a minimum of seven (7) players on its bench by 10 minutes after the scheduled game start or game is forfeited



Penalties And Suspensions

- ▶ Fighting
 - ▶ Mite/Squirt/Pee Wee -
 - ▶ 1 game suspension for first infraction
 - ▶ 3 game suspension for second infraction
 - ▶ Season suspension for third infraction
 - ▶ Bantam/Midget
 - ▶ 2 game suspension for first infraction
 - ▶ 5 game suspension for second infraction and automatic review
 - ▶ Season suspension for third infraction



Penalties And Suspensions

- ▶ 15 or more penalties in one game = 1 game suspension for coach. If this happens 3 times in the same season, it is an additional 3 game suspension for the coach.
- ▶ Racial, ethnic or gender related slurs on the ice or in the rink, before, during or after the game is an automatic 3 game suspension and will be reviewed by the Commissioner for further action.
- ▶ Match penalty is a minimum automatic 3 game suspension and the Commissioner must be contacted immediately to determine the overall length of the suspension.
- ▶ A coach leaving the bench for any reason except to tend to an injured player shall be ejected and receive a 3 game suspension.
- ▶ A coach encouraging players to violent action or condoning such action shall be ejected and suspended for a minimum of 5 games.
- ▶ Placing hands on or otherwise touching an official is a minimum 5 game suspension for the first infraction and expulsion if it happens a second time.



Serving Suspensions

- ▶ When a Game Misconduct or Match Penalty is received in an NJYHL game, the suspension is served in the immediate subsequent NJYHL game.
- ▶ If the immediate next game is a non-league game, the suspension is served in that game (to satisfy USA Hockey requirement) and then also in the next NJYHL game on the schedule (potential for 2 games missed).
- ▶ The Commissioner must be contacted immediately when a fighting major penalty or match penalty is assessed. The offending team is responsible to initiate the contact.
- ▶ Penalties requiring suspension in non-league games must be sent to the Commissioner.
- ▶ Any player serving a suspension must not be in the playing area (bench, penalty box or scorekeeper area)
- ▶ Any coach serving a suspension may not be near the player bench or be coaching in any way.



Serving Suspensions

- ▶ Any coach using a player under suspension incurs additional suspension and fine (covered earlier under rule changes)
- ▶ Officials do not assess suspensions - they assess penalties. The written penalty attaches a suspension. Officials do not have the authority to comment on the length of a suspension nor can they lessen (or increase) a suspension
- ▶ The **NJYHL Commissioner** is the only one that can reduce or increase a suspension at his discretion.
- ▶ There is a right of appeal for any suspension involving more than three games.



Standings, Playoffs, Methods of Determining a Winner

METHOD OF DETERMINING A WINNER - RULE 83

- ▶ League Division Championship
 - ▶ A. The team in each division accruing the greatest number of points will be declared the champions. Points are awarded as follows:
 - ▶ Win 2 points
 - ▶ Tie 1 point
 - ▶ Loss 0 points
 - ▶ B. If two or more teams are tied in total points, the standings will be determined using the following criteria:
 - i. Team having the most wins in all league games.
 - ii. Team having accrued the most points among the tied teams (head to head).
 - iii. Team having the most wins among the tied teams.
 - iv. Team with the fewest goals against among the tied teams.
 - v. Team having the fewest goals against in all league games.
 - ▶ C. If the foregoing still results in a tie, a single elimination playoff game shall be played to determine the winner. The home team shall be determined by the toss of a coin.



Standings, Playoffs, Methods of Determining a Winner

BANTAM AND MIDGET PLAYER PLAYOFF ELIGIBILITY - RULE 84

- ▶ Each player must participate in a minimum of 50% of the League games played after his/her name appeared on the team roster.
- ▶ Any player rostered after the end of league play is ineligible for post season play. In the event of an injury or other extraordinary circumstances, the Board reserves the right to waive this rule.
- ▶ It is the responsibility for the individual teams to insure that all their players are eligible.
- ▶ If a team uses an ineligible player in a playoff game, that game will be declared a forfeit.



Standings, Playoffs, Methods of Determining a Winner

PLAYOFF FORMAT

- ▶ The NJYHL rules state the playoff format and seeding is released at the September Delegates meeting.





NJYHL Schedules and Participation

Planning and Volunteering



NJYHL Schedules

Date	Event	Location
August 12, 2016	Midget Season (AA & A) Begins	State-wide
August 30, 2016	NJYHL Team Manager Meeting	Crowne Plaza, Jamesburg
September 9, 2016	Bantam and Pee Wee Season Begins	State-wide
September 24-25, 2016	Squirt Jamboree	North - Skylands Ice World South - Jersey Shore Arena
September 24-25, 2016	AAHA Mite Jamboree - PA	Ice Works
September 30-October 2	AAHA Mite Jamboree - NJ	Ice Vault
October 8, 2016	Squirt Season Begins	State-wide
October 23, 2016	Midget AA Season Ends	State-wide
October 28-30, 2016	Midget AA Playoffs	Ice Vault



NJYHL Schedules Continued

Date	Event	Location
October 31-November 6	Midget AA - AAHA Championships (best of 3)	Participating Teams Host
November 5, 2016	Mite Season Begins	State-wide
February 12, 2017	Midget A, Bantam, Pee Wee and Squirt Season Ends	State-wide
February 24-26, 2017	Squirt and Pee Wee Playoffs	Aspen Ice Randolph
March 10-12, 2017	Bantam and Midget A Playoffs	Igloo
March 18-20, 2017	AAHA District Tournament - Bantam AA	Ice Line
March 25-27, 2017	AAHA District Tournament - Pee Wee AA/A/B, Bantam A/B, Midget A	Ice Works
March 31 - April 4, 2016	USA Hockey National Tournament	14U -Coral Springs, FL 16U -Frisco, TX 18U -Lansing, MI



NJYHL Schedules Continued

Date	Event	Location
April 3, 2017	2017-2018 Tier II Tryouts Begin (After 4:00 pm) 6U, 8U, 10U, 12U	District-wide
April 17, 2017	2017-2018 Tier II Tryouts Begin (After 4:00 pm) 14U, 16U, 18U	District-wide
April 24, 2017	2017-2018 Independent Tryouts Begin(After 4:00 pm) 14U, 16U, 18U AND all age level Spring/Summer teams	District-wide

NJYHL Participation

- ▶ **SQUIRT JAMBOREE**
- ▶ In accordance with NJYHL rules - every club Hockey Director must participate in the evaluation process. Please plan on attending the Jamboree to review and assist in placement for the teams
- ▶ **MITE JAMBOREE**
- ▶ As this is an Atlantic District event, there is no NJYHL for participation but evaluators are needed at this very busy event.



Game Management Expectations

Common Sense and Common Mistakes



Game Responsibilities

- ▶ Communicate respectfully with officials, players, opponents and parents
- ▶ You are the role model - Positive Coaching Alliance
- ▶ You are responsible for your organization's behavior during games
 - ▶ Parents in the stands
 - ▶ Penalty box management
 - ▶ Score and time keeping - off ice officials
- ▶ Know the rules
- ▶ Be a gracious host
- ▶ Big brother is watching



Game Responsibilities

- ▶ Confirm player roster reflects bench attendance
- ▶ Review the score sheet at the end of the game **before** you sign it. Once it is signed, changes cannot be made.
- ▶ Remind your parents **website statistics will not be corrected** unless it impacts the outcome of the game.

- ▶ Who do you contact if you have questions, concerns, complaints?
 - ▶ NJYHL Coach in Chief
 - ▶ Referee Assignor
 - ▶ **Remind your coaches and families that all contact with the NJYHL must come through your organization NJYHL Delegate**





Officiating and Assigning

NJYHL Practices



Skill Development for Players American Development Model (ADM)





AAHA Mite Season Description

2016-2017 Season - see attachment

Questions?

Thank you for your time and dedication to the kids, your club, the NJYHL and to the great sport of hockey.

Links

- ▶ ADMkids - www.admkids.com
- ▶ Atlantic Affiliate Background Screening Program www.atlantic-district.org/screening.php
- ▶ AAHA Registrar website - www.atlanticdistrict-registrar.com
- ▶ NJYHL - www.njyh1.org
- ▶ Positive Coaching Alliance - www.positivecoach.org
- ▶ USA Hockey Coaching Education Program - www.usahockey.com/coaches
- ▶ USA Hockey Mobile Coach App - www.usahockey.com/page/show/893678-usa-hockey-mobile-coach-
- ▶ USA Hockey Rulebook - www.usahockeyrulebook.com
- ▶ USA Hockey Safe Sport Program - www.usahockey.com/safesporttraining





MITE SEASON DESCRIPTION

Rev. 3-1-16

	Half Ice - Mite Major (8U)	Cross Ice - Mite Minor (6U)
Schedule Information		
Season length	20 weeks	20 weeks
Season start date	First weekend in November	First weekend in November
Pre-season scrimmages	From October 1-November 1 – maximum of 4 games – one per weekend expected	Not applicable
Season end date	First weekend in March	First weekend in March
Game count	20 game days maximum	20 game days maximum
AAHA Placement	Open to all 8U teams. Held in late Sept/early Oct. Mandatory participation at league discretion	Open to all 6U teams. Held in late Sept/early Oct. Mandatory participation at league discretion
Travel radius	Games w/i a 30-45 min. radius of home rink (girls teams - 1.5 hr radius)	Games w/i a 30-45 min. radius of home rink
Tournaments	Up to 2 (not included in game count above and excludes placement jamboree)	Up to 2 (not included in game count above and excludes placement jamboree)
Weekly on ice time limit	6 hours	4 hours
Practice count	40 minimum	40 minimum
Weeknight practices	1 night minimum	Not required
Practice types	Station based practices and small area games to permit teaching concepts	Station based practices and small area games to permit teaching concepts
Rosters		
Roster size	Suggested minimum of 8 skaters and one goalie and maximum of 12 skaters and two goalies*	Suggested minimum of 7 skaters and maximum of 10 skaters*
Goaltenders	Rotating goalies with full equipment	Rotating goalies – goalie equipment optional
Team format & Number	4 v 4 and total number of teams unlimited	3 v 3 or 4 v 4 and total number of teams unlimited
Game Layout		
Playing surface/location of nets	Divide rink into two equal playing surfaces from the goalie crease to the red line. Studio sized ice surfaces are permitted. 6U format also permitted	Divide rink into 3 equal playing surfaces either perpendicular to zone lines or from crease to blue line with 3rd surface in neutral zone
Benches	All teams share benches	All teams share benches
Pucks	Blue pucks	Blue pucks
Goal nets	3/4 net or full ice net if 3/4 net not available	3/4 net or full ice net if 3/4 net not available
Referees	One USA Hockey certified official required for each half ice game paid the current mite officiating rate	Not required
Uniforms	Home and away jerseys or reversible jersey	Home and away jerseys or reversible jersey
Scorekeeping	No scorekeeping or standings	No scorekeeping or standings
Game length	Three 15 minute periods – running clock (can add more periods if ice time permits) additional time is encouraged	Three 15 minute periods – running clock (can add more periods if ice time permits) additional time is encouraged
Ice slot length	Suggested 1 hour – can be 1.25 hrs	Suggested 1 hour – can be 1.25 hrs
Line changes	At buzzer or whistle after 1.5 minutes of play. More skilled teams should shift on the fly. Coaches to confirm at start of each game*	At buzzer or whistle after 1.5 minutes of play
Face offs	At center ice at the start of each period. Behind the net after each goal scored. At every buzzer equal placement at the far side of the surface. After all events ref retrieves puck initiate drop.	At center ice at the start of each period. Behind net after each goal scored. At every buzzer equal placement at the far side of the surface. After all events retrieve puck to initiate drop.
Coaches on the ice	Not permitted	Required
Penalties	Player goes to side lines for remainder of shift plus one full shift – replace player on the ice	Player goes to side lines for remainder of shift plus one full shift – replace player on the

*Contact local league and AAHA ADM Coordinator for approvals of variations.



MITE LEVEL GUIDELINES FOR 2016-2017 SEASON

BIRTH YEARS

8U – 2008-2009

6U – 2010 and younger*

- 2008 and 2009 birth year players ARE NOT permitted to play at the Squirt level. **NO WAIVER REQUESTS ACCEPTED.**
- 2007 birth year players ARE NOT permitted to play at the Mite level. They must play at Squirt level.
- Rosters listing birth year players that are outside of the required age bracket will not be processed unless they have been approved in accordance with the AAHA rules.
- *2010 birth year (6U) players CAN play on 8U teams, but cannot move to Squirt until age appropriate.

RECOMMENDED ROSTER SIZE

10-12 players including goal tenders

- This roster size should provide for two full lines of skaters (8) and 1-2 goalies for 4 v 4 games.
- Clubs can go slightly smaller or larger if necessary, but keep in mind the goal is to permit the maximum amount of ice time for all players. Rosters that are too large prohibit adequate ice time for the players.
- If participating clubs agree at game time, the option of playing 3 v 3 cross ice is permitted so plan rosters accordingly.
- Clubs can field as many mite teams as they choose. They should be labeled numerically by skill – **NOT BY COLOR** (#1 team being the most skilled, etc.). As players improve, it is club's option to move the players between team rosters.

RECOMMENDED PRACTICE-GAME RATIO

2:1 practices to games (20 games = 2,400 minutes of practices)

- 20 games recommended maximum = 40 practices recommended at a minimum.
- Game days are permitted (jamboree type setting) and are counted as 1 game.
- Using 60 minutes as the equivalent of 1 practice, a team that schedules 20 games should have a corresponding 2,400 minutes of practice time. Practices can include tryouts/evaluations, etc. through the end of the season.

MITE SEASON DATES AND DURATION

Pre-Season – October 1-October 31

In-Season - November 1 – March 12

- Pre-season games – 1 game per weekend recommended.
- In-season games – 20 games recommended (excluding tournaments). This includes League and NL games.
- Game days are permitted (jamboree type setting) and are counted as 1 game if played in the same day.
- Teams may participate in a maximum of 2 tournaments at their discretion – tournaments **MUST** be half/crossice.

MITE PLACEMENT JAMBOREE – IN SEASON GAME SCHEDULING

Jamboree – October 1-2, 2016

- NJYHL teams mandatory participation in jamboree and game scheduling.
- Separate jamboree registration will be sent out over the summer.
- All games must be scheduled by organization Master Scheduler.
- All In-Season games scheduled will be entered into league mandated systems – **SCORES ARE NOT KEPT.**

MANDATORY USE OF USA HOCKEY CERTIFIED OFFICIALS

- USA Hockey Officials are required for all games – pre-season and in-season. These officials are to be paid the current approved rate for mite level games. Non-certified officials ARE NOT permitted.