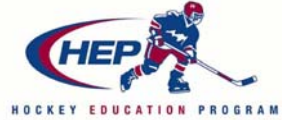




**HEP Parent Education 2007-08
Situation Discussion
Mites/8&Under**



Yelling Instruction during Team Practices

You are the parent of a mite player. You often attend and watch team practices. Sitting in the stands you can see your son is not executing the drill correctly. Becoming increasingly frustrated, you find yourself yelling instructions across the ice as to how to properly execute the skill.

Discussion Questions:

1. What effect does yelling instructions across ice have on your son's ability to master the skill being taught?
2. How do you think your son feels when you yell instructions across the ice?
3. How do you think the coaches feel when you yell instructions across the ice?

Coach Asks Your Hockey Player to Participate In An Off-Season Camp

At the end of the season, the coach approaches you, the parent, to ask if your son would like to participate in an "elite" summer hockey camp led by a college hockey coach. The coach highlights the benefits of this participation which include: more exposure to a prominent college coach, intensive training with well-known collegiate players, and being able to play with some of the best mite players in the state.

Discussion Questions:

1. Although the coach mentioned several benefits to participating in an off-season camp, are there consequences? If so, what consequences do you foresee?
2. Is it appropriate for an 8 year-old child to be training in an off-season camp with a collegiate coach?
3. Do you consult with your child to see if he would be interested in participating in the summer camp?

Your Child's Playing Time Does Not Match That of Others on the Team and Your Child Has Played the Same Position the Whole Season

Your daughter has just started to play hockey and is beginning to master the skills. In the games she only plays a few minutes. Although she is interested in learning how to play other positions, the coach only plays her on defense because he feels other players at the forward position give them a better chance of winning and that is what's fair to the team.

Discussion Questions:

1. As the parent, how would you react to this situation?
2. When, if ever, would you discuss this situation with your daughter's coach?
3. If your daughter becomes discouraged with the lack of playing time and variety in position play, how do you talk to your daughter about this situation?

Your Child Saying "Bad Game" to Opponents

After a game, your daughter tells you that some of her teammates were saying "bad game" to the other team during the post-game handshake. You asked your daughter whether or not she said "bad game" too, and she admits to you that she did because she was sad about losing the game.

Discussion Questions:

1. Do you have a conversation with the coach and/or the other players' parents about this incident? Explain.
2. Do you discuss this situation with your daughter? If so, what is your message?