

North Branch Mite Committee

Monthly Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2010

Meeting was called to order at 6:05pm.

Committee Members Present: Ray Croal, Cherie Turek, Tom Garin, Tim Hink

Members Present: Jess Richards, Paige Lee

Mite Open Ice

- There are 4 hours of open Mite ice for Mite skaters separated out between the Initiation/D Mites and the rest of the Mites and U10 skaters.
- There is a coaches meeting next week and they will look at getting coaches for the mite skate and the evaluations. Ray will talk to Tom Garin about getting these additional coaches.
- Ray will talk with Brian about the possibility switching ice time to get other blocks for the Mite evaluation try-outs. Look at scheduling ice for after the evaluations the following weekends. This will provide us with additional ice time to further evaluate and make accurate decisions on placement for each of the mite players.

Evaluations Process (Skills Placement)

- The evaluations will only include returning mites and will not include 1st year skaters
- There was some discussions around placing colored dots on the helmets to make separation comparisons easier to identify?
- Talked about using clipboards and stop watch to evaluate skaters with a starting point and then explain to parents that we will be taking these same measurements again at the end of the season.
- It was agreed that we need to provide some information to the parents on the skills assessment that will take place at the Mite evaluations.
- Discussed the option of placing kids on teams based on skills or are we also going to look at scrimmages and puck handling. There are some kids that are very good at the skills and are unable to play at the higher levels of hockey.
- We are going to look at separating out kids into smaller benches and leave room to move other kids in and out of teams after further evaluations.
- There has been talk about requiring the C-Mite level teams to play half-ice games.
- We need to try and get as many coaches as possible and sub-group the kids on the ice during the evaluations.
- The combinations of C and D mite players that will still be playing at the Mite level include 11 kids total.
- We are going to group kids in logical positions and see if there are kids that fit or do not fit into these groups.

- We may be able to watch the drills without using a stop watch by having logical separations on the ice.
- Look at having some of the traveling level coaches also be on the ice to evaluate the levels for the kids.
- We all agree that we should include crossovers, backward skating, and puck handling in the assessment drills.
- Returning Mites are the only ones that are required to attend.
- Ray will go off last year's list and cross reference the registered skaters. He will put together a list of all the mites and then coordinate with Lisa and Cherie to send out emails, post online, and send a calling post.
- Ray will talk with Brian at potentially having additional ice for these evaluations
- There were additional thoughts about having color codes for the teams to make the evaluation process easier.
- We do need to have names on the helmets with a piece of white hockey tape and displayed on outside of helmet. This needs to be included in the email and other notifications that go out to the parents
- We will look at having a couple of weekends to evaluate the different levels of mites based on color.
- We are going to skate the 2 B level teams at the same talent level and against the same associations.

Meeting ended at 7:35pm