



2011/12 Shakopee Hockey General Information

The intent of this document is to help communicate information about the Shakopee Youth Hockey Association (SYHA) 2011/12 season including cost, levels of play, coaching and general information. A considerable amount of planning occurs for each season, however, decisions/requirements from District 6, Minnesota Hockey and other authoritative parties are out of our control. The information provided below is to the best of our knowledge and are general guidelines with estimated costs and dates.

Levels of Play

Level of Play	Format	Gender	Birth Date/Grade Level	Season Dates
Mite 1	In-house	Boys & Girls	K & Pre-K, all 1 st year players	Nov - Mar
Mite 2	In-house	Boys & Girls	1 st Graders	Oct - Mar
Mite 3	In-house/ Travel	Boys & Girls	2 nd & 3 rd Graders	Oct - Mar
Lady Sabers 1	In-house	Girls	K & Pre-K, all 1 st year players	Nov - Mar
Lady Sabers 2	In-house/ Travel	Girls	1 st , 2 nd , and 3 rd Graders	Oct - Mar
Squirt	Travel	Boys & Girls	7-1-2000 to 6-30-2002	Sep - Mar
U10	Travel	Girls	7-1-2000 to 6-30-2002	Sep - Mar
PeeWee	Travel	Boys	7-1-1998 to 6-30-2000	Sep - Feb/Mar
U12	Travel	Girls	7-1-1998 to 6-30-2000	Sep - Feb/Mar
Bantam	Travel	Boys	7-1-1996 to 6-30-1998	Sep - Feb/Mar

Recreation League Available through Minnesota Hockey

For the 2011/12 season, Minnesota Hockey will again be offering a recreation league for Squirt/U10 through Bantam/U14 aged players as an alternative to the traditional travel model offered through the associations. This program does not require a signed waiver. More information can be found at www.minnesotahockey.org or by contacting District 6 at mevans3656@q.com. Do not register online through Shakopee Hockey for this league.

Shakopee Youth Hockey Registration

- Registration for all SYHA teams will take place online at www.shakopeehockey.com starting on August 1, 2011.
- Registration payment must be made via credit or debit card through the online SYHA registration process.
- Any player that has a payment due from a previous season will not be allowed to participate in pre-skates, try-outs or any other current season activity until the balance is paid in full.
- Registration questions should be directed to Denise Hennen at denisehennen@comcast.net.
- A mandatory parent meeting will be held in September. Notification of the date, time, and location of the meeting will be communicated to all registrants.

Minnesota Hockey Participation Rule

For the 2011/12 season, the Minnesota Hockey participation rule states that players must register and participate with the association whose boundaries incorporate the player's residence. If a player desires to participate on a team from any other association, the player must obtain a signed waiver from both the releasing and receiving association president prior to submission to the district for approval. The full participation rule can be found online at www.minnesotahockey.org and www.d6hockey.net. If you have questions or need a waiver signed, please contact Todd Hallett, SYHA President, at todd.hallett@yahoo.com.

Coaches

- **Non-parent coaches:** The goal is to have non-parent coaches for all travel teams, not including Mites. This is dependent on the number of applicants and is unfortunately not always achieved.
- **Parent coaches:** Parent coaches need to complete the coaching application and will be selected after team placements are finalized.
- **Certification Requirements:** All SYHA coaches must be certified through USA Hockey. All coaches must enter USA Hockey's Coaching Education Program at Level 1, and must continue their education each year until, at a minimum, they achieve Level 3.
- Rostered upper level travel coaches (Sq/U10 – Bantam) will be reimbursed for certification classes upon providing receipt.
- All assigned coaches must register online at www.usahockey.com prior to the first practice.

Travel Teams Tryouts

Level of Play	Approx. Dates	Format	Projected Team Levels
Squirt	October 3 rd – 9 th	Skills & Scrimmage (3-4 hrs)	A, B, C
U10	October 3 rd – 9 th	Skills & Scrimmage (3 hrs)	A, B
PeeWee	October 3 rd – 9 th	Skills & Scrimmage (3-4 hrs)	A, B2, C
U12	October 3 rd – 9 th	Skills & Scrimmage (3 hrs)	A, B
Bantam	October 3 rd – 9 th	Skills & Scrimmage (3 hrs)	A, B2, C

Tryout details: Tryouts will be closed and no parents will be allowed in the arena. Squirt/U10 parents may tie their child's skates, but must leave the arena 5 minutes prior to the scheduled tryout session. Tryout dates, format and team levels may change based on final registration numbers. Teams will be posted on the website Oct 9th or 10th after all tryout sessions are complete.

Pre-Skates

- Pre-skates take place in September prior to try-outs. These sessions are **OPTIONAL** but highly encouraged. Ice time used for pre-skates will be reflected on the ice bills for all players regardless of attendance. Players may only attend their assigned group and may not skate with a different level.

Travel Team Schedule

Level of Play	D6 Games (Est)	Tournaments	Practice Hours (Est)
Squirt/U10	12-16	2-3	70-80
PeeWee/U12	16	3-4	80-90
Bantam	16	3-4	80-90

Schedule Notes: D6 guidelines permit each to team to attend one out-of-town tournament.

Volunteering

- Each family is required to work 12 hours of volunteer time, unless you are a brand new Mite 1 family to Shakopee Hockey. New families with only a Mite 1 player are required to work 6 hours of volunteer time.
- A \$500 refundable deposit is required from each family at the start of the season and is destroyed if the full obligation is met.
- Families may buyout of volunteering for \$400 ONLY during registration.
- Additional details can be found online on www.shakopeehockey.com under volunteer info and will be presented at the parent meeting in September.

Equipment

- Equipment – player provides all equipment.
- Jerseys/socks – SYHA will provide use of game jerseys (red, black and white) and 3 pairs of socks. Mite level players will receive an in-house jersey and one pair of hockey socks.

- Traveling jerseys are the property of SYHA and must all be returned at the end of the season. The socks do not need to be returned.
- New this year! The Shakopee Youth Hockey Association will be providing each traveling player (Squirrels/U10 and above) a Saber hockey team jacket. Parents can bring in their confirmed registration receipt to Dave's Valley Sports in downtown Shakopee by September 25th to be fitted for the proper size. Fittings taken place after this date will not be included in the pre-season order and delivery may be delayed.

Attendance Policy for Travel Teams (non-Mites)

To strive for maximum team success and development at the individual and team level, it's important that all players attend every practice, scrimmage and game. An attendance policy is being put into place for the 2011/12 season as follows:

- Players are required to attend ALL games, scrimmages, practices.
- Excused absences include religion, school activities, illness, and family emergencies.
- Holidays and family vacations will not be considered excused absences.
- Consequences of missing a practice, scrimmage or game:
 - New for this season: Each player is allowed 3 unexcused absences to be used at their family's discretion. These 'passes' were added to the attendance policy to help families plan for vacations and holidays during the hockey season.
 - Players missing a game/practice/scrimmage session due to an unexcused absence (beyond the pre-mentioned three) will be required to sit 1 game period per practice/scrimmage session missed.
- Unexcused absences result in the player sitting during the next scheduled game. If multiple kids are affected, it is then the coach's discretion as to when, not if, they sit. If a player has to sit two or more games in a row he/she is not required to sit back to back games.
- It will not be considered an unexcused absence if a player misses a team practice or game that was scheduled within 7 days of notification.
- Enforcement of the attendance policy will begin on November 1, 2011.

2011 Shakopee Mites Levels & Lady Sabers

Mite 1 - Is for all new players or with 1 year of organized hockey. Emphasis is on skating skills and puck control. Games are cross ice. Practices and games will be 1-2 times per week typically scheduled on weekends. There will be an additional weekday practice (indoor or outside) starting in December. A season ending Jamboree will be in March. (***Mite 1 players are: all Pre-K, K and all 1st year players regardless of age.***)

Mite 2 - Is for players with 1-2 years of organized hockey or skating experience. Emphasis is on improving the basic skating and puck skills. Games are half ice. Practices/games are 2-3 times a week mostly on the weekends. There will be an additional weekday practice (indoor or outside) starting in December. A season ending Jamboree will be in March. (***Mites 2 players are: All 1st graders***)

Mite 3 - Is for players with 2-3 years of organized hockey or skating experience. Emphasis is still on polishing and improving skating and puck skills but also introducing systems of team play. Games are full ice. Practices/games are 3-4 days a week. A season ending Jamboree will be in March. (***Mites 3 players are: 2nd/3rd graders***)

Mite Travel - Is for all 3rd graders and required 2nd graders (birth dates before 7/1/2003) moving to squirrels. Teams will continue to play in-house games with Mite 3's and will also play D-6 teams and in one Jamboree. Games are full ice. Practices/games are 4-5 days a week. Some additional cost to cover ice times for Jamborees and extra practices will be incurred. Mite Travel participation is optional for a Mite 3 player. (***Mite Travel players must have 2 + years of organized hockey.***)

Lady Sabers 1 (new this season) - Is for all new players or with 1 year of organized hockey. Emphasis is on skating skills, and puck control. Games are cross ice. Practices and games will be 1-2 times per week typically scheduled on weekends. There will be an additional weekday practice (indoor or outside) starting in December. A season ending Jamboree will be in March. (***Lady Saber 1 players are: all Pre-K, K and all 1st year players regardless of age***)

Lady Sabers 2 - Is for players with 2-3 years of organized hockey or skating experience. Emphasis is still on polishing and improving skating and puck skills but also introducing systems of team play. Games are full ice. Practices/games are 3-4 days a week. A season ending Jamboree will be in March. Note; this level of Lady Sabers might be divided into two levels depending on the number of total registrants. (**Lady Sabers #3 players are: 1st, 2nd & 3rd graders**)

Lady Saber's Travel - Is for all 3rd graders moving to U10. Teams will continue to play in-house games with Mites 2/3 and will also play D-6 teams and in 1 Jamborees. Games are full ice. Practices/Games are 4-5 days a week. Some additional cost to cover ice times for Jamborees and extra practices will be incurred. Lady Saber Travel participation is optional for a Lady Saber player.

Program Philosophy

The goal of the SYHA hockey program is “to be the best we can be” at each level. The win-loss record of a group is important, but only in terms of the strategies of the game. Our athletes within the program will have “high expectations” placed on them on and off the ice.

There are five expectations that we have of athletes that are associated with the program. These expectations are not directly related to winning or losing. They are as follows:

1. To act with “class” on and off the ice
2. To be the best you can be (hockey player, student, and person)
3. Always give 100%
4. To be an unselfish player and individual
5. To be chemical-free

“Success” is attaining the goal of “being the best you can be”. It is a journey. Therefore, with a certain group of athletes, “success” might be attained despite having a losing record. Another may have a winning record, but in fact not be as successful because they had not reached the goal of ‘the best you can be’. The program will be based on a belief that if all the little things are done correctly, the scoreboard will take care of itself.

We will be team oriented in our approach. In the game of hockey, if the goals of the group are to be reached, it will occur through the dedication and effort of many individuals. Nothing can be accomplished alone in hockey.

2011/12 Estimated Season Cost per Level

Level of Play	Registration	Fundraising	USA & MN Hockey Fees	Estimated Remaining Balance Due (Approximate)
Mite 1	\$175		See note below	
Mite 2	\$250	\$100	\$40	
Mite 3	\$280	\$100	\$40	\$150 - \$200 travel players
Lady Sabers 1	\$175		See note below	
Lady Sabers 2	\$265	\$100	\$40	\$150 - \$200 travel players
Squirt	\$150	\$100	\$40	\$1,100
U10	\$150	\$100	\$40	\$1,100
PeeWee	\$150	\$100	\$40	\$1,300
U12	\$150	\$100	\$40	\$1,100
Bantam	\$150	\$100	\$40	\$1,600

Season Cost Notes:

- **Registration Fees:**
 - Mite 1 & Mite 2: the fees cover the total estimated cost of the season (ice, Rink Rat Jamboree, referees, etc).
 - Mite 3/Lady Sabers: the fees cover the total estimated cost of the in-house program (ice, Rink Rat Jamboree, referees, etc).

- Travel teams (Squirt/U10 and above): the fees cover the ongoing costs of running the association (for example, goalie program, tax preparation, website, Intro to Hockey program, billpay, jersey maintenance fees, etc.).
- **Fundraising Fees:** The SYHA Raffle Calendar is the major fund-raiser for our association. The money raised will be put into the general fund to pay for many operating costs within SYHA. It is mandatory for all members of the SYHA to participate. The fee is \$100.00 per player and will be collected at the time of registration. Families with more than two registrations have a capped fee of \$200.00, this will be the maximum collected. Fundraising Raffle Calendars are available for players to sell and earn back 100% of the fee. Each player will receive five calendars with a cash value of \$20.00 each.
- **USA & MN Hockey Fees:** These fees are required by USA and MN Hockey. Players with a 2005 or later birth year are exempt from these fees, but must still follow the registration process accordingly.
- **Remaining Balance Due:**
 - Mite 3/Lady Sabers Travel – there will be an additional \$150-\$200 cost to cover the additional practices, D6 games, referees, etc.
 - Travel teams (Squirt/U10 and above):
 - Recurring automatic payments will be made through the bill pay system on the Shakopee Hockey website to total the estimated balance due for the season. A final catch-up invoice will be issued at the end of the season for the difference of the estimated cost to the actual total and will also be paid through the bill pay system. ***During registration you will be required to login to the bill pay system and authorize payment.*** Families can choose to pay their entire estimated ice bill, or choose to pay by a set number of equal installments, whichever is most convenient for the family.
 - Total ice bill cost will include, but is not limited to: fees for tournaments, ice bills, D6 charges, and non-parent coaches (if applicable).
 - Estimate is based on the average cost per player during the 2010-2011 season and guidelines outlined above.
 - The A team will be generally 10-15% higher and a C team will be generally 10-15% lower.
 - These costs are ESTIMATES and will vary based on the number of practice hours, shared ice, number of tournaments and players per team.
- **Late Fees:** A late fee charge of \$35 will be assessed to any traveling player (Squirts/U10 and above) who registers after September 5th and any Mite 2, Mite 3, or Lady Saber 2 player who registers after October 9th.
- **Refunds:**
 - Refunds will generally not be granted more than thirty (30) days after a player has completed registration. In specific instances where extenuating circumstances exist, the Board may consider issuing a prorated partial refund or forego all or a portion of the balance of the season's fees owed based on the costs incurred by SYHA. Cancellation requests received within thirty (30) days of registration will be refunded, less a \$75 cancellation fee.

S.K.A.T.E. Program

The Shakopee Hockey Association is again proud to partner with Minnesota Hockey Journal and offer our players the opportunity to participate in the S.K.A.T.E. (Skaters Keep Achieving through Education) program. This program is meant to recognize and reward the efforts of student athletes who play hockey.

All hockey players on U10, U12, Squirt, PeeWee, Bantam, and High School are eligible to sign-up for the S.K.A.T.E. program during the registration process. By signing up for the S.K.A.T.E. program the student athlete is committing to work towards a G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher during the 1st semester or 2nd quarter of the 2011-2012 academic year.

If the student athlete obtains a 3.0 G.P.A. or higher for the 1st semester or 2nd quarter they are qualifiers and become eligible to participate in the association's recognition night. Players who receive special education assistance may qualify with a letter from their case manager stating they showed above average performance. Additionally, qualifying student athletes are entered in a statewide sweepstakes presented by Minnesota Hockey Journal.