



Mite/Tyke Initiation Program Policy

Philosophy

The goal of SMMHA's Mite/Tyke Initiation Program is to provide a positive, safe, and fun environment that focuses on developing players' self-confidence and hockey skills. The fundamental basis of our program is Hockey Canada's Initiation Program (Mite/Tyke), which is a structured, learn-to-play hockey program.

Structure

1. Program Convenor/Administrator
2. Head Instructor/Technical Coordinator
3. Group Instructors (On-Ice Coaches)

The Mite/Tyke Initiation Program Convenor is a SMMHA director, who attends the monthly meetings. This role also includes being part of the Skills Development Committee and communicating/coordinating with the Head Instructor. The Program Convenor initiates the development of both a mite fun day committee and a tyke fun day committee, as well as a chair for each of those committees. The Program Convenor communicates regularly with parents and answers questions concerning the program.

The Head Instructor communicates regularly with the Program Convenor and facilitates the establishment of the group instructors. The Head Instructor supports the Group Instructors as needed. This role requires a thorough understanding of Hockey Canada's Initiation Program.

Group Instructors will be required to familiarize themselves with Hockey Canada's Initiation Program and work closely with the Head Instructor to deliver this program in a fun, safe and positive environment.

Mite

- players will be divided into 2 groups: year 1 (junior) and year 2 (senior) and will skate at different ice times
- will follow Hockey Canada Initiation (Mite/Tyke) model
- focus on skill development
- within each group, players will be divided into 3 different skill level groups
- no full ice games, only cross-ice games

Tyke

- will follow Hockey Canada Initiation (Mite/Tyke) model
- focus on skill development
- cross-ice games
- player assessments based on Hockey Canada's Core Skills will take place in October and February, with corresponding report cards to be given to player and parents
- 0-10 full ice games, beginning mid to late January

Player Movement

A parent wishing their player to play at a higher age division must submit a signed letter of request to the Mite/Tyke Initiation Program Convenor and SMMHA Coaches Committee. The committee will assign 3 people to assess this player on the ice with his/her age division and determine if this player moves up to the next age division. The SMMHA Tryout Policy applies to any Tyke age player wishing to try out for the Novice BB and AE teams.