



MISSISSAUGA GIRLS HOCKEY LEAGUE

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House League Equal Ice Policy

Every House League player will receive their fair minimum share of ice time during a House League exhibition, regular season, and playoff game. The Equal Ice Policy stated below is based on a common-sense approach and should never be abused by coaches; should there be any parental complaints about “shortening the bench”, the coach and that decision will be investigated by the House League Committee.

- A house league team base roster is maxed out at 15 skaters and one goaltender (3 lines of 5 skaters – 3 forwards, 2 defense per line)
- A standard MGHL game consists of two ten (10) minute periods and one twelve (12) minute period which is equivalent to a 32-minute game (stop time)
- This 32-minute game must be divided equally amongst the 3 lines of 5 skaters
- Based on the number of players and the 3 lines, the average “equal” ice-time per player is approximately 11 minutes of playing time per player per game
- If there are player absences or the team is not fully rostered, the coach must play with 4 or 5 Defense or 2 Centres and 3 sets of Wingers; there will be some players that will get more ice than the others but this is done for the greater good of the game and the player. For example, many players don’t or won’t play Defense, many Wingers are not comfortable with playing Centre, etc.... it is better that the coach manages the lines as best suited for the team under these circumstances.
- As long as every player receives a minimum of 11 minutes of ice-time, the coach has adhered to their responsibility of equal ice however the coach should grant as much ice-time per player when there is a shortage of players.
- To put players in unfamiliar and uncomfortable positions to adhere to the “equal” component of the policy may affect and impact the rest of the team and the players in a negative fashion.

There are situations where the league will permit the head coach to put on a power line at the end of the game during tournament and playoff games only. Once again, the coach still must ensure the 11 minutes of playing time per player even if the bench gets shortened.

If a head coach does not follow the policy or abuses the autonomy, the House League Committee will ask the coach to step down from the position.