

Saskatoon Minor Hockey Association

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Beyond the Registration Fees – Expectations of Hockey Families

Congratulations on getting your child involved in the great sport of hockey. There is no better sport than "Canada's Game"! The Saskatoon Minor Hockey Association is excited to have your family involved. We hope you enjoy your experience.

Here is some information for families that are new to minor hockey. This information will provide you with expectations of families that have children registered in minor hockey. There are other responsibilities beyond the initial registration fee you pay for your child. The key for all of these is communicating with your team if you need assistance or are unsure.

- 1. <u>Transportation</u> children playing minor hockey will need to get transported to and from their team practices, games and tournaments. Your son or daughter will receive a schedule of games and practices from the SMHA prior to the start of the season so you will have a good idea of when most of your child's ice times take place. Please note that there may be additional ice times added to this core schedule list for extra practices, exhibition games and tournaments if your team enters any.
 Do not hesitate to contact your team's coach or manager if you have limitations in terms of transporting your child. It is imperative that you make your team aware in order to arrange for assistance.
- 2. <u>Financial</u> Besides registration fees, families are responsible for team fees. Each team will have a pre-season meeting with its parents to confirm a team budget. This budget will cover possible items such as extra ice time for practices, team photos, team jackets, tournament entry fees, thank you gifts for coaches, etc. As an example, if the team budget is \$2,000.00 and there are 15 players on the team, each family would be responsible for \$133.00 payable to the team (\$2,000 / 15). Please be sure to let your team manager know if you require more time to make payments and wish to set up a longer payment schedule.
- 3. <u>"Sweat Equity" Volunteering</u> each family will usually pitch in during the season to make the year run smoothly. Being involved makes it more fun as well. Example all games require a parent from the team to be in the timekeeper's box to work as a timekeeper or scorekeeper. Other areas that require parents to step up to help out include team manager, team treasurer, fundraising, families to look after the team jerseys, etc.

The most important thing to remember is to be sure to enjoy the season and have fun meeting new friends. Always be sure to communicate with your team management if you are unsure about anything or require assistance. Hockey parents are great people and will do their best to help out others. They cannot read minds though so be sure to speak up if you require assistance or do not understand what is taking place.

Thank you for getting involved in minor hockey – Enjoy!!