

Mississauga Hockey League

Modified-Ice Hockey Framework



Starting in the 2018-2019 season, the Ontario Hockey Federation mandated that U8-U9 aged players play on modified ice. The Mississauga Hockey League (MHL) and the 6 Member Hockey Associations (MHAs) have introduced modified-ice games for the U8 & U9 House League Divisions as follows.

U8 - U9 House League Divisions

Season Structure

- a. Convening period from 4-6 weeks
- b. 1 MHL game per week on average
- c. Standings solely for seeding the end of year jamboree

Game Structure

- a. U8 and U9 Teams will compete 5 v 5 this year. There may have to be some adjustments to 4 v 4 if both teams have 9 players or fewer (including the goalie).
- b. Teams will use separate player benches and will not switch ends at the midpoint.
- c. Games will be 40 minutes in length (2 x 20-minute periods) plus a 2-minute warm-up and 1-minute between periods.
- d. Player shifts will be 2 minutes in length. A buzzer will sound to signal line changes.

Team Structure

- a. Rosters will consist of 13 players (including 1 goalie) minimum at the U8 level, 14 players (including 1 goalie) minimum at the U9 level. (where possible)
- b. There should not be designated positions for each player.

Officiating

- a. One timekeeper per game
- b. Two referees per game

Scheduling

- a. 1 MHL game per week on average
- b. The MHL will try to ensure there will be no weeknight games, though there may be the occasional weeknight game in the U9 division once games revert to full ice in late December.

Game Sheets

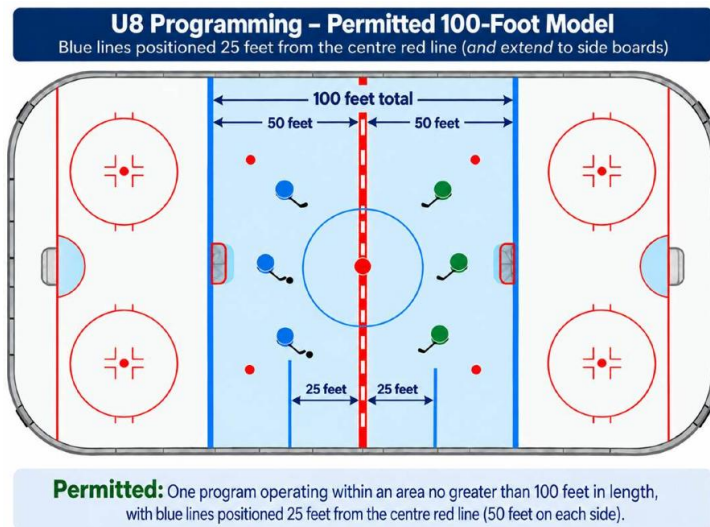
- a. There will be no official game sheets in U8 House league - Paper rosters and referee / timekeeper goal counts will be recorded for date purposes only.
- b. U9 House League Electronic game sheets will be from the start of the season.

Mississauga Hockey League

Modified-Ice Hockey Framework



Rink Setup



- Boards divide the ice to reduce the surface.
- Temporary boards placed to provide a 100' playing surface.
- Games will be played using Junior-sized nets for U8 & Senior-sized nets for U9 all season

Rules of Play

- a. Faceoff at the beginning of each period
- b. Once the buzzer/whistle sounds for each shift change, players must immediately relinquish control of the puck and vacate the ice. All skaters from both teams from the preceding shift must be close to exiting the ice prior to the next shift entering the ice to resume play. The goaltenders may not play the puck during the line change.
 - Failure to immediately relinquish control of the puck at the buzzer or new players entering the ice surface prematurely may result in a minor penalty for the offending team.
 - During the line change the one official will ensure the puck is a safe distance from the boards from where it was relinquished, during the line change the other official will hold up their arm... once his arm is lowered, that will signify when the next shift of players may leave their bench to enter the play.
- c. When play has stopped due to the goaltender freezing the puck or a goal has been scored, the Referee will signal the attacking players to vacate to the opposite side of the centre ice mark. Once all attacking players have exited beyond the mark, the players can re-engage in play once the opposing team has played the puck.

Mississauga Hockey League

Modified-Ice Hockey Framework



- d. If a puck goes out of play, the Referee will provide a new puck to the goaltender, and the attacking team will exit the opposite side of the centre ice mark, and the players can re-engage in play once the opposing team has played the puck.
- e. The Home team will be asked to supply 2 game pucks.
- f. No icing, no offside.
- g. **Note:** U9 division will revert to full-ice hockey and the standard MHL rules of play, no buzzer system, stop time, offside & icing, etc. will be called) in Late December.
- h. In the event of an injury, the whistle will be blown, play will stop, the clock will stop, and the injured player will be attended to.

Penalties

- a. All minor penalties will result in the offending player being removed from the ice. As soon as an infraction is observed, the Referee will blow the whistle to stop play and the penalized player will be escorted to the penalty box with an additional player being added to the game play. THERE will be no Power play both teams remain 5 v 5. Once the buzzer sounds the offending player will return to their respective bench. Offsetting penalties will result in both offending players being placed in the penalty box with play resuming 5 v 5.
- b. Major penalties will be treated as above, but the offending player will be removed from the game. Referees will be required to advise the League Office of all Major penalties called in the Modified -Ice divisions.