

8U (Mite Try-Outs)

The 8U level try-out is designed to assess the talent of the kids participating to form initial team units. The goal of try-outs at this age level is to allow every kid the opportunity to develop against peers of the same skill level throughout the season. The main tenant of this skill division is to ensure players develop through increased puck touches, passes and shots on goal. The result of the try-out process is to place kids on a team where they can have success and develop a passion for the great game of hockey.

At the conclusion of the 2-day try-out we will post teams on our website (MLHAHornets.com) by jersey number. These team units will be divided across 3 levels, Red, White, and Blue. USA Hockey, The Mt. Lebanon Hockey Association, and the Pittsburgh Amateur Hockey League (PAHL) encourage movement between these levels as kids progress throughout the year, so although the team postings will serve as initial team units, movement between teams can happen as the year progress. A couple of things to note as families prepare:

- 8U registration is open now - link to register is <https://go.teamsnap.com/forms/190589>
- We do not cut players in this process, but will cap registration at 110 participants - so please register quickly to secure asap
- We expect to have (10) 8U teams – this has been the norm for the past few seasons – the number of Red, White, and Blue teams will be determined by the try-out evaluators, the MLHA ADM Coordinator, and the MLHA VP of Hockey Operations
- Each player will be graded on 4 main skills: skating, puck handling, shooting, and game play
- We will have 5 evaluators present at each session assessing the players skills, as well as on-ice coaches helping demonstrate the drills the kids are to complete
- After the first session (which is divided by the alphabet), we will post jersey numbers on the website to let families know which call back session each player should attend
- If your player wants to be a full-time goalie – please send a note to David.klasnick@gmail.com / we might ask a full-time goalie to participate in multiple sessions

The 8U (Mite) level is a ton of fun and we are excited to welcome our youngest kids into our program.