



## **PAHL CROSS ICE OFFICIATING MENTOR PROGRAM**

### **IDENTIFIED PROBLEMS:**

1. Seasoned officials do not want to do Mite cross ice games, either due to low pay or type of competition.
2. New officials do not have enough experience to effectively officiate Mite cross ice games. They are easily intimidated by coaches and spectators. They are unsure about penalties and so end up not calling them. This results in Mite age players forming bad habits and in potentially unsafe conditions to play.
3. New officials need training to do a better job at the Mite level, and to prepare for the older divisions.

### **SOLUTIONS / RESULTS:**

1. Provide mentoring / training / coaching by scheduling a senior official to supervise and work with the new officials in each PAHL Jamboree.
2. The senior official can help the new officials with positioning, recognizing game actions that require a penalty to be called, face offs, signals, and the handling of coaches and spectators.
3. Knowing that the senior official is on the ice to support and assist should make the new official feel more confident and should cause a better effort all around.
4. Having the senior official on the ice will create a better perception of control, and should create better control in reality, which will in turn decrease intimidation from the coaches and spectators.

### **CROSS ICE MENTOR PILOT PROGRAM SPECIFICS:**

1. Referee Schedulers will schedule a senior official in the Mentor role for every PAHL Jamboree scheduled.
2. The Scheduler will select a senior official from their area that is seasoned, has a quality performance background, and has a genuine interest in developing our new officials.
3. The PAHL will pay the cost of this Mentor official back to the host association.
4. The Mentor will skate the game with the new officials, and will spend time with each new official during the ice slot, instructing, coaching, and assisting if needed. The Mentor will provide feedback specifics to the new officials, and an evaluation to the scheduler.
5. Schedulers will be required to disclose to the league who was scheduled for the Jamboree mentoring for reimbursement of costs to the association.