

Duluth Icebreakers 8U

Program Overview: The Icebreakers 8U program serves as an alternative all-girl option for Mite 2 hockey across Duluth. Last year we fielded one 8U team, and the previous three seasons we had two. 8U Icebreakers play weekly games against surrounding girls' 8U teams from Hermantown, Superior, Cloquet, and Moose Lake.

8U Icebreakers host 2–3 of those games over the season. 8U typically also has one indoor and one outdoor practice per week. Last year we accepted some invites farther away to play (No Fee). We typically also sign up for 3 indoor tournaments, and have discussed joining local jamborees as well.

No 6U Icebreakers Program: We do not have a 6U program and do not intend to start one. We understand the necessity of the community-based model in Duluth and agree that the youngest skaters should start at their home rinks' and learn-to-skate programs to keep those community rinks running.

Capacity and Mission: We do not have the capacity to grow the 8U program beyond two teams. Our mission is simply to provide an option for girls who prefer not to play co-ed, who are looking for the social benefits of an all-girl environment, or who might otherwise quit the sport. Our goal is to keep girls skating, and to and to provide additional opportunities for all Duluth girls.

Collaboration: We hope to invite all association girls to our Monday night skills sessions, and we look forward to coordinating other indoor opportunities throughout the season. For example, we would love to help put together additional Duluth Girl's Hockey groups for fun weekend opportunities such as the **3v3 glow-in-the-dark tournament** in Carlton, which offers both 6U and 8U levels.

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