



**BRATTLEBORO HOCKEY ASSOCIATION (BHA)**  
DEVELOPING GOOD SPORTS SINCE 1976

## **Girl's Ice Hockey Opportunities**

*GIRLS have a number of exciting options to play hockey for the BHA, as listed below. Comments from players and parents alike tout the fun and benefits from participating. We look forward to hearing from you!*

### **GIRLS Age 6 years and under**

*Learn-to-Skate/ Developmental Program:* This program is designed for both boys and girls in a learn-to-skate environment with many coaches and assistant coaches helping. Here young girls are taught to skate and are instructed on the basic skills of hockey. There are no scheduled games, but as the players progress informal scrimmages are played amongst the participants. Ice time is once per week.

*Mite Minor:* This program is for girls and boys to improve their basic skating skills and to start to learn some of the basics of hockey. This team will play games against opposing teams in Brattleboro, Keene, Saxton's River, and possibly Greenfield. In general, the Mite Minors play around 5 games in a season.

### **GIRLS Age 7 and 8**

*Mites:* Is a team for both boys and girls. The practices are twice per week with games on weekends. There is no physical contact (no checking). A 20 game schedule is played Brattleboro and Western Massachusetts. Some 6 year olds play on the Mites.

### **GIRLS age 9 through 12**

*GIRL's U-12 team (age 9-12):* This is an all girls team with practices twice per week and games scheduled on weekends. There is no checking at this age level. A 20+ game schedule is played against other girl's teams in MA, VT and NH.

*Squirts (age 9 & 10):* This level is open for both boys and girls. The practices are twice per week with games on weekends. There is no checking at this age level. Girls are placed on teams according to skill level. The Squirts are part of the Greater Springfield League (GSL) and games are played against other league teams in Brattleboro and Western Massachusetts. The Squirts teams play approximately a 30+ games per season.

*Pee Wees (age 11 & 12):* This level is open for both boys and girls. The practices are twice per week with games on weekends. There is physical contact (checking) at this age level. The Brattleboro Pee Wee team plays in the Greater Springfield League (GSL) and games are played against league teams in Brattleboro and Western Massachusetts. The schedule is approximately 30+ games per season.

### **Girls age 13 and 14**

*GIRL's U-14 team (age 13 & 14):* This is an all girls team that practices twice per week with games scheduled on weekends. There is no checking at this age level. The games are played against Girl's teams in Vermont, NH and MA. The schedule is approximately 20+ games per season.

*Bantams:* This level is open for both boys and girls. Practices are twice per week with games on weekends. There is checking at this age level. The Bantams are also a part of the Greater Springfield League (GSL) and most games are played against teams in Brattleboro and Western Massachusetts. The schedule is approximately 30+ games per season.



### GIRLS ONLY team opportunities

Age	Name	Team Gender	Practices	Games	Game Location	Checking
9-12	Girls U-12	Girls Only	Twice per week	20 games per season	Brattleboro, MA, VT and NH	NO
13 and 14	Girls U-14	Girls Only	Twice per week	20 games per season	Brattleboro, MA, VT and NH	NO

### MIXED Gender team opportunities

Age	Name	Team Gender	Practices	Games	Game Location	Checking
6 and under	Developmental Program	Mixed	Once per week on a weekend day	None scheduled		NO
6, 7, 8	Mite Minor	Mixed	1 or 2 x / week	5 games	Brattleboro, Keene, PVA, Greenfield	NO
	Mites	Mixed	2 x / week	25 games	Brattleboro and Western Massachusetts	NO
9, 10	Squirts	Mixed	2 x / week	30 games	Brattleboro and Western Massachusetts	NO
11, 12	Pee Wees	Mixed	2 x / week	30 games	Brattleboro and Western Massachusetts	YES
13, 14	Bantams	Mixed	2 x / week	30 games	Brattleboro and Western Massachusetts	YES

**Equipment:** Introductory loaner equipment is available and the BHA holds a Used Equipment Sale at the time of registration in September.

**Ice hockey season:** Begins in late October on 'home ice' which is the Nelson Withington Skating Facility at Memorial Park managed by the Town of Brattleboro Recreation and Parks Department. For GSL teams they begin practices in early October (skating out of the Collins/ Moylan Arena in Greenfield, MA in late Sept/early October.) The season ends in March; for the Girls only teams, when the Brattleboro rink closes in early March and for the mixed gender teams, by the end of March.

**Playing hockey provides:** fun and excitement, confidence building and camaraderie, fitness, skills and team work, along with knowledge of the game.

**Registration:** In early September, the BHA holds a registration at the Brattleboro rink. Look for details in the newspaper and school fliers and our website, [www.brattleborohockey.org](http://www.brattleborohockey.org)

**Tournaments:** Teams have opportunities to participate in various tournaments including the Vermont State Tournament in February. The decision to participate is made by team and fees are covered by the team membership. The BHA hosts the Green Mountain Invitational Tournament the 1st weekend in January, and it is a Girls' tournament. (BHA team fee is waived.) All BHA members are asked to volunteer their time in preparation for or during the tournament.