🏒 How-To Guide: Registering a Parma Mite Team for a Full-Ice AAU Tournament

This step by step guide will help Parma Hockey coaches properly register a Mite (8U) team for a full-ice AAU hockey tournament.

✅ Step 1: Confirm AAU Membership

Before entering any AAU sanctioned tournament, your team, players, and coaches must be AAU registered.

➤ Team AAU Membership

* Register the team under AAU Hockey. Make sure to register as PHA Red and the birth year. For example, PHA Red 17.
* Assign the team to your club or coach’s account.

➤ Individual Player & Coach Memberships

* All players and coaches must have active AAU memberships.
* Register at: [https://aausports.org](https://aausports.org/)
* Be sure to select "Ice Hockey" as the sport.

✅ Step 2: Find a Full-Ice AAU Tournament

Since many areas use cross-ice for Mites, be sure the tournament specifically offers full ice 8U divisions.

Where to Look:

* [https://aauhockey.org](https://aauhockey.org/)
* [MyHockeyTournaments.com](https://www.myhockeytournaments.com/)
* [TravelHockeyTournaments.com](https://www.travelhockeytournaments.com/)
* [HockeyFinder.com](https://www.hockeyfinder.com/)

Ask the Organizer:

* Does the Mite division play full ice?
* Are there roster size or play level restrictions?

✅ Step 3: Register for the Tournament

Once a tournament is selected and verified as full-ice:

1. Go to the tournament's registration site.
2. Complete the online registration form.
3. Submit the team AAU number and roster.
4. Pay the tournament fee (typically $500–$1,200).

Documents to Prepare:

* Full roster with AAU membership numbers
* Birth certificates or age verification (if required)
* Coach AAU membership and certifications

✅ Step 4: Prepare for Full-Ice Play

Make sure your Mite team is ready for the full-ice format:

* Practice full ice games before the tournament
* Focus on:
  + Positional play
  + Line changes
  + Defensive awareness
* Consider a scrimmage with another full ice Mite team if possible

✅ Step 5: Confirm Insurance & Compliance

* AAU provides basic insurance coverage with membership.
* Check with the tournament for:
  + Additional insurance forms (if needed)
  + Hotel stay requirements (some use “Stay-to-Play” policies)
  + Coaching certifications or background checks

✅ Step 6: Communicate with Families

Once registered:

* Share tournament dates, hotel info, and rink address
* Create a packing list for full ice equipment (some tournaments require mouthguards, neck guards, etc.)
* Distribute the AAU waiver if needed

🧊 Final Tips for Coaches:

* Print AAU membership cards for all players and coaches.
* Keep digital and printed rosters handy.
* Be ready to adapt, full ice is faster and more structured than cross ice.
* Please reach out to our Hockey Director or any PHA board member with questions. Feel free to email parmahockeyassoc@gmail.com