

## **BB Council Report**

October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Age Category Governors for this year;

Bruce Page – Timbits

Rick Robertson – Novice

Tim & Georgina Anderson – Atom

Cheryl Nealon – PeeWee

Brent Murray – Bantam

LaVerne Bramall – Midget

Cathy Hosowich – Junior C

Governors meeting held on Tuesday August 27<sup>th</sup> to initiate the 2013-2014 hockey season. Implementation of our strategic planning procedures is put into place to achieve set goals. Bring everyone up to speed with Hockey Alberta Regulation changes and updates (e.g. Maximum 10 game rule for affiliations, coach certification, mouth guard issue, 2014 Alberta Winter Games etc.). Meeting dates are set for League Chair training sessions, individual Association Age Coordinator/Director specific review meetings are set... Critical dates are studied.

AA Council Meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup> to firm up the expected date for returning players back to community as per my summer discussions with Elite.

Novice – Meeting was held at MaxBell and very well attended for all Novice Age Association Coordinators to review the NDL (updated and revamped from last year) , rule changes, things to watch for, how to get support, how to apply for exhibition games, tournament games, etc. We introduced a few League Chairs and gave out their contact info to the associations and vice versa. Our vision is to have the LC's and Association Coordinators get this information to each and every Novice team coach and manager. Good communication and support will be beneficial for this level of hockey.

Timbit Program – Meeting held September 4<sup>th</sup> for all Association Coordinators. Introductions, review of the Timbits guide, seasonal plan, new jerseys for this age category... a committee will be set up to review and suggest updates for the 2014-2015 season.

Announcement has been sent off to all community presidents and administrators regarding the tryout process for the Alberta Winter Games team for Zone 9.

Communication process is being fine-tuned to better inform associations and quadrant hockey regarding expected protocols surrounding the affiliation procedure.

League Chair recruitment is well underway.

Working with community age coordinators too refine the team player numbers and acceptable roster sizes.

Seeding grid for Novice has been reviewed and accepted on Sept 25<sup>th</sup>.

Governors meeting held Saturday September 28<sup>th</sup> covering several impact points and collecting seeding information along with historical statistics to accurately place community teams in their appropriate divisions. Several phone calls and emails to appointed association representatives to fine tune the requirements needed to have all teams fit into the matrix while respecting the wishes of the community and keeping all teams at a competitive and viable level of play.

The next two Governor meetings are set for October 12<sup>th</sup> and November 13<sup>th</sup>.

Coach Certification requirements and programs for the current available clinic's schedule have been conversed from Hockey Calgary to all associations. Deadline this year is November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Reorganization and updating of the Hockey Calgary website will make for easier surfing for information and understanding for our users.

Try-outs and evaluations are winding down. Governors and myself worked together to firm up the numbers and logistics over the weekend of Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> for final placement of teams for the seeding round. Draft #1 circulated earlier than expected on September 28<sup>th</sup>, draft #2 circulated on Tuesday October 1 and the Final Seeding placements were circulated Thursday October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Novice North will have 68 teams and Novice South will have 72 teams (total 140 teams) - Atom will have 141 teams in 13 divisions – PeeWee will have 126 teams in 12 divisions – Bantam will have 74 teams in 7 divisions - Midget will have 70 teams in 7 divisions – Junior C has 11 teams (down 1 team from last season –that being Southland).

We have completed development on an automated exhibition game sanction web form for teams to use when organizing exhibition games. This new process will enhance existing infraction reporting available at various team and administration levels that currently capture only Hockey Calgary scheduled seeding, regular season, Esso Minor Hockey Week and playoff games. Our goal is to capture the detail for all games played by our teams as it may help us to understand trends in infractions relative to the type of game. The process is streamlined to accommodate the Officiating required and have used the 72 hour advance notice that CZRC currently requires for accepting exhibition game requests. This has been implemented and will benefit all teams in our system

We had a meeting of Junior C Coaches, Team Managers and Association Representatives on Saturday September 28 at 12:30 in the Hockey Calgary offices located in the Max Bell Arena. This meeting

introduces Cathy Hosowich as the new Governor of Junior C and our expectations for the upcoming season. This gathering was well attended and I was impressed with the cooperation of all parties to help each other with player movement and sustainability of this age category.

Attended Hockey Calgary Executive Board meeting on Monday September 30<sup>th</sup> to support and keep informed with community related hockey concerns.

Present for AA Council meeting on Monday October 7<sup>th</sup> representing community hockey.

Joined President Council meeting on Tuesday October 8<sup>th</sup> to become more familiar with the challenges each association has. This forum has an excellent round table format that encourages unity and awareness of all aspects of the game... from the administrative end... to basic grass roots hockey. I will continue to attend these monthly meetings (as long as I am invited) to better understand today's issues.

League Chair status is as follows;

Short 3 LC's in Novice,

1 in Atom,

1 in PeeWee,

2 in Bantam,

Midget is good.

Any help filling these last few vacant positions will be greatly appreciated.

Four League Chair training sessions are set for October 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. We have updated LC Manuals and have developed a revised learning method to better inform and support our LC's.

- Tue Oct 15 6:00-7:00PM & 7:30-8:30PM – Pee Wee, Bantam & Junior
- Wed Oct 16 6:00-7:00 & 7:30-8:30PM – Novice & Atom

Meetings will be in the Bronze Room at the Max Bell arena. We will have lanyards, Hockey Calgary Regulation books, Hockey Canada Official Playing Rules and Hockey Calgary laptop bags for all in attendance.

Hockey Calgary has ordered 1,000 handbooks and will provide Associations with 1 printed copy per team.

I have dealt with a several 'under' and 'overage' players going into registration.

Community Affiliation requests will be pouring in soon and this critical process will have high priority... with an expected 24 hour turn-around approval rate.

Going forward - Hockey Calgary has several associations that offer differing levels of support and training to their officials... and others with none. I have struck up a subcommittee to better focus on the Level 1 community Officials and my objective will be a program or community based platform to provide development for all officials in Calgary through mentorship and support. It is intended to see all officials improve their skills, knowledge of the rules and confidence to ensure the appropriate level of officiating for Minor Hockey. I have approached Mr. Darrell Martindale (past Vice President of Hockey Calgary and Director of Officiating) to return to the game and restore the wonderful work he has given us in the past. Stuart Hill is another strong mentoring Official (from McKnight – Referee in Chief and coordinator) to join forces and work in liaison with Central Zone to educate not only community officials but coaches/managers as well, to recommend enhancements not in place and expand on programs city wide. CZ already does an excellent job providing clinics and support that is very much appreciated... my intent is to help support and work with CZ and bring community officiating up a notch.

Both Darrell Martindale and Stuart Hill have agreed to join BB Council (as of Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>) and help implement this vision for community officiating. We have had meetings and positive emails are being exchanged.

Communication and information has been a huge focus for this level of hockey (Community) and I feel our work and strategic plans have **and** will continue to support/ benefit the masses in a transparent and fair manner. I wish to extend a huge thank you to our Governors, Hockey Calgary office staff and the continued cooperation of the hundreds of volunteers that administer this game.

That's Community Hockey in a snapshot... one month in!

Regards,

Ian Corkin

Chairman - BB Council