

Penticton Minor Hockey Association

2007/2008 DIRECTORS REPORT

Atom Division

The season began with setting up the Atom Division. The Recreational division was represented by 4 balanced teams; coached by Reuben Erhardt, Blaine Dionne, Blaine Peterson and Darrell Moog. Due to the overall shortage of ice recreational teams had to deal with minimal amounts of practice ice at difficult time slots.

Atom Development head coaches selected for the season were Jody Graham and Doug MacMillan. Both teams had approximately 13 players each.

League Discipline

As a Discipline Director I was directly involved with several issues that required investigation, deliberation and issuing of appropriate discipline. These issues involved parent-coach conflicts, inappropriate coach, parent and player behavior.

Many of the cases this season may have been preventable by better team communication and by parents upholding the 24-hour rule before approaching team officials or executive board members.

Harold Gardner Award

This year's selection for the Harold Gardner Bursary was made more interesting by a strong number of applicants (11) with excellent educational backgrounds and solid post secondary choices. Recipients of the Harold Gardner Bursary were as follows:

1.) Wesley Hopkin 2.) Andrew Johnson 3.) Greg Moorehouse

I wish all applicants the best in their future educational pursuits.

Recommendations

This past season gave me the opportunity to observe all divisions from which I make the following recommendations:

A greater emphasis is required towards individual skill development in the areas of skating, passing, shooting and stickhandling at the Novice, Atom & PeeWee levels. Less focus should be placed on systems play and winning tournaments at this age and more placed on developing all players equally on the team. This will provide benefits to teams when players reach Bantam & Midget rep levels.

Better accountability of team spending needs to take place. Teams should utilize the Expense Statement forms available on the PMHA website to clarify team expenses. Incomplete cash flow statements or photocopies of bank transactions do not give parents an idea of where their fundraising dollars are spent.

Once again, the 24 hour rule needs to be observed when dealing with issues between coaches & parents, this will help avoid the possibility of adult confrontations in front of young hockey players.

Thanks to all the players, parents and volunteers who made this a great season!

Ralph Webber – Director at Large
Penticton Minor Hockey Association