

U16 AA NorthWest Stars Year End Report

This was only the second season for the U16AA league in the SAAHL. Only first year U18 aged players are eligible as Hockey Sask brought it in for development purposes.

U16AA tryouts were the weekend of Sept 6. The team was not finalized until the week of Sept 16 after U18 AA tryouts. In total, 19 players were chosen for the team with players from the Battlefords, Maidstone, Meadow Lake, Dalmeny, Handel, Biggar and Alsask. AP's were also added during the season from U15AA, U18A and U15A. Many players had not played AA hockey before so it was a learning curve for the players and parents.

We attended 3 tournaments during the season. One in early October in Saskatoon where we had an 0-4 record. The next was the Sask East Oilers Classic in Melville at the end of October where we had a 1W, 2L, 1T record. The final tournament was in Penticton in early November where the team went 0-4. Penticton was a U17 tournament with many academy teams so it was a good learning experience for the players to play against older teams.

The regular season record was 9-23-1-1, finishing last in the North Division. This set us up for a first round playoff series against Martensville, the top team in the league, who had only lost 2 games all season. We lost that best of 3 series in team games. Martensville went on to win the league provincial final without losing a game.

Even though the team didn't have as many wins as we had hoped, 2 of our players ended up in the top 10 scoring in the league at 4th and 5th.

The team battled injuries and concussions all season long. They also went through a coaching change during the season. The team canvassed for food for the food bank together on Halloween and made Christmas cards and played games with residents at Caleb Village in December. They also attended weekly dryland training at Aligned Holistic Health & Wellness. The boys all learned valuable life skills and resilience and gained confidence. They were an excellent group of kids who got along very well.

The goal of U16AA is to develop the players to be able to play U18AAA and U18AA in the next 2 years of U18, so hopefully some of the boys crack a few of those teams.

U15 AA Sharks-

Overall 2024-25 Season Record

- 47 GP - 32 wins, 10 losses, 4 ties, 1 OTL

League record

- 27GP (38 points) - 17 Wins, 6 Losses, 3 Ties, 1 OTL
- Finished 2nd in North division (6 teams) and 3rd overall (12 teams)
- Playoffs - Lost out in 2nd round to 3rd place Saskatoon in game 3 of best of 3 series

PreSeason & Exhibition

- played U15AA Lloydminster Steelers twice, winning two close games
- played Lloyd again during bye week leading into playoffs and won 5-1. Lloydminster was the 2nd place team in Alberta U15AA

Tournaments

- Sept Calgary Fire Starter (Won A Final)
- Oct 6-8 Emily Clark Classic Saskatoon, SK. (Lost out in A semi-final. 3 wins - 1 loss)
- Nov 10-12 Regina Rebels U15AA - (Won A Final)
- 10 of our players participated in the SaskFirst program. 7 players (5-2010 & 2-2011 born) advanced to the SaskFirst Top 136 (68 North) division and 3 were selected for the Final Top 40 Summer Showcase.

Although we were disappointed losing out of league playoffs, we overall had a great season. We were fortunate to have an excellent group of kids. Player development progressed nicely through the season. We should have 3-5 players graduate to U18 AAA and several to U18 AA next season. The team will also have a solid core of returning veterans for the 2024-25 season including a goalie, 2 defenseman & 3 forwards.

Head Coach - Kim Kramer

Asst.Coach - Brad Rempel

Female Coach - Nicole Buitenhuis

Non-Parent Coach (part time) - Boyd Wakelin

Manager - Ryan Haase

U15 AA Stars-

The 2024/25 U15 AA North West Stars consisted of 8 returning players, 4 new second year players and 6 first year players. Our league record was 18 wins, 7 losses, 2 overtime losses and 2 ties which was good for third in the league and fourth overall in the province. Placing third gave us home ice advantage in the first two rounds of playoffs. In the first round we played Northeast and beat them 8-2 and 5-4 in OT to give us the sweep in the first round. The second round brought us against the Saskatoon Stallions. We won our first game 7-3 but dropped the second game 5-4 in Saskatoon. Game 3 back in Battleford saw us pull out a 6-3 victory to advance to the north final against the top team in the league- Saskatoon Bandits. On the road for game one we won 6-3 but dropped game 2 by a score of 5-4. That brought a third and deciding game in Saskatoon which we lost 4-0.

It was a disappointing end to the season but there were lots of positives to look back on. Our overall record was 30 wins, 14 losses, 3 overtime losses and 2 ties. The boys were a resilient bunch- only 2 times did we lose 2 games in a row in regulation and never lost three in a row all year. We had a balanced attack this year having 14 or 16 skaters reach double digit points and our goaltending tandem combined for the 3rd best tandem in the league overall! All the while never having a scorer in the top 15 but still finishing 3rd shows tremendous balance and input from all players.

I want to wish the best to our graduating players and the team will go into next season with a very solid group of returning players who will no doubt accomplish great things next year. I also want to thank our staff- Assistant Coaches Lee Ulmer, Brad Duncan and Tyler Cornish- none of our success would have been possible without their hard work and dedication to our team. Manager Becky Carr, who did a great job of keeping things organized and scheduling our season for us. Treasurer Angela Weber and all of the parent volunteers for game day duties that kept everything running smoothly and the organization of meals etc while on the road- thank you so much.

U13 AA Sharks

League record

- 28GP (24 points) - 11 Wins, 15 Losses, 2 Ties
- Finished 6th in North division (7 teams)

Tournaments

- Oct 11-13 Saskatoon Sask Challenge Cup (4 loss)
- Nov 8-10 Camrose Wildcats Winter Classic (4 loss- 1 win)
- Jan 3-5 Prince Albert Winter Classic (Second place finish)

Team Demographic Make-up

6(Battleford Area) 1(Hillmond) 1(Lloyd) 4(Turtleford/Meota/Glaslyn) 4(Maidstone) 1(Maymont)

Although we lost out of the playoffs in the first round we overall had a really great season. We beat the top two teams of the north and south divisions in regular season. We were fortunate to have an incredible group of kids who got along very well and were a lot of fun to coach. Player development progressed throughout the season, with athletes showing growth in the technical and tactical side of the game. Staff also focused on the mental side of the game, having athletes focus on hockey IQ and on/off-ice confidence building.

Coaching Staff/Support/Development

HC-Trina Mann AC-Stephen Mann, Bryce Bohun, Quintin Blanchette Manager-Tracey Meena On/Off Ice Support/Development - Kurt Meena, Ritchie Regehr, MindBodyHockey Goalie Support- Joel Gryzbowski and NetScience

Trina Mann

U13AA Northwest Sharks Head Coach 2024-25

U18 AA Stars

The U18AA Stars season was marked by a mix of challenges and achievements. With our record being 6-27 for the season. While we did not attain all our goals, we finished our last month with our strongest results, with players showing growth as the season drew to a close. We managed to secure victories in a few crucial games, showcasing the growth and determination of our team.

The team participated in two tournaments this past season, one in Edmonton and the other in Regina. Competing in these tournaments provided us with a valuable opportunity to face teams from other leagues.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt gratitude to my dedicated staff and the parents who played pivotal roles in supporting the U18AA Stars. Special thanks go to Assistant Coaches Mike Lepp and Lee Gaetz, Team Manager Carla Bernier and Treasurer Linsey Koch. Your unwavering commitment and knowledge were invaluable to our team.

Additionally, I would like to acknowledge all the parents who took on various roles to ensure that our team operated smoothly. Your dedication and support were crucial to our efforts, and we truly could not have achieved what we did without your involvement. Thank you to all parents, guardians and sponsors for being an integral part of our journey this season.

2024/25 U18AA NW Sharks - Season review

At the end of the 2023/24 season, we had 3 - 2006 players graduate, 1 - 2007 goalie step away from the game due to concussion issues, and 1 - 2008 player commit to Regina Rebels AAA. For the 2024/25 season we had 26 players for our tryout camp. Our roster was finalized with 7 - 2009's (1G/5F/1D), 7 - 2008's (4 F/3D), and 6 2007's (1G/3F/2D).

Exhibition Games: Home & Home with Lloydminster Steelers

Tournaments: October 11-13 Sask Challenge Cup - Saskatoon (4 games). October 25-27 Swift Current Fall Classic (4 games).

Regular Season Record: 27 GP, 12 W, 10 L, 4 T, 1 OTL for a total of 29 points. This landed us 3rd place in our division.

Playoff Record: Won the first series over Northeast Aces in 2 games. Second round vs Warman we lost game 1 in OT, won game 2, lost game 3 in OT.

We played 42 games in total. I feel we were a competitive team and were one win away from finding our way to the Provincial Finals. We had a great group of players and an excellent leadership group that didn't hesitate to hold teammates accountable. Our players, once again this season, attended weekly Spin Class from October 1 to March 1. Our Spin Classes were led by our Assistant Coach Rees Kachmarski. Not only did the Spin Class better our players conditioning but brought the team closer together as teammates. We practiced once in town per week and once at Saulteaux, plus the valuable Trach Powerskating & Skill sessions. We had a successful season with notable development throughout the season. We were able to keep a positive atmosphere throughout the season. The girls were always ready to work hard at practice, and well prepared to compete at games. There were no notable issues amongst players/parents and Coaches. More than the wins or losses, the development of the players showed as the season went on. Also important to note, the friendships and bonds made between our players are second to none. I feel we had a really supportive group of parents behind the team which is always nice. To wrap up the season, coaches and players travelled to Edmonton for a little shopping at West Ed, out for supper and to an Oilers Game, returning home the next day. We also had a parent; player and coaches' wind-up this past week where we presented a number of Player Awards.

We've built a strong program over the last 3 years and really love where female hockey is going with building numbers each year. Look forward to seeing what next season has in store. The U18AA team is well positioned for the 2025/26 season with 7 - 2009's and 7 - 2008's (1G/9F/4D) who are eligible to return unless any commit to a AAA Program.

Thank you to you and the BMHA Board for your support throughout the season, we appreciate it. Please also pass on our thanks to the Officials this season, we honestly had the best officiating in the league this past season.