BANTAM DIVISION REPORT 2018-2019

The season began with some preconditioning sessions throughout the month of September. After the AA team had been selected, we were left with 32 skaters and 6 goalies. Our evaluations were held on October 1, 2019. There was talk of having 3 teams due to the number of goalies but in the end the players were evaluated and then divided into 2 teams. One of our goalies opted for a release to go and play with a Rosetown team and another of the goalies volunteered to move up to the Midget division as they were in need of 1 more goalie. The two teams were registered in the STEP league.

Here is a breakdown of the Bantam teams:

STEP CAMERON - Coached by Greg Cameron. STEP CARLSON – Coached by Mark Carlson.

Although our two Bantam teams struggled this season, l am hoping that some skills were developed, friendships made and some fun had by all players and coaches.

I would like to THANK all of the coaches and team management for all their volunteer hours this past season. Without our volunteer coaches we would not be able to run our Minor Hockey Association. THANK YOU for making my job so easy – I enjoyed working with each and every one of you this past season

This will be my final Bantam report as the Bantam director. I have held this position for the last four years and as I reflect back I want to thank all the coaches, parents and players for becoming a part of my life. I have met many people and have developed some wonderful friendships with you all while holding this position. I will be moving to a different position on the board so will still see you all at the rink but not as a division director.

In closing I leave you with this thought

***To play the game is good,
To win is better,
But to love the game is best of all.***

***UNKNOWN***

Have a great summer and we will see you around the rink in the fall!

Barb Heidt

Bantam Division Director

**BANTAM BARONS STEP #1 – CAMERON**

I had a great group of boys this year. We didn't do the greatest in the standings but each player developed and had a lot of fun this year. We didn't make the playoffs so we were done early but the boys wanted to continue playing so I kept my practices into March and they played 3 on 3. They really enjoyed this and it was very well attended. We had our windup at a Blades game.

Greg Cameron

**BANTAM BARONS STEP #2 – CARLSON**

At the start of the season after teams were picked, the kids were excited as well as coaches to get started towards a decent year in Step League. Our first game was quite competitive against Meadow Lake. Even though we lost 6-3, I thought we would be okay going forward. As the year went along the boys lost confidence with the team, as these small towns were beating us pretty bad. We managed to finish with 4 wins and 14 losses in league play and missed the playoffs. Highlight of the year was reaching A-final in our own tournament. We definitely played better away from league play. Can’t explain it. I assisted with the provincial team as well and things didn't go so well there as well. I think it might have come down to both Bantam teams having a subpar year in league play. Parents for the most part were great, but same old scenario as years past, there were a few that were non-existent. AP’s were decent when needed but definitely not ready for body contact. My first year kids weren't ready for the body contact as well. I know they were scared of getting hit. I’m not sure how to proceed because of Hockey Canada’s rule of no contact before Bantam, but Minor Hockey has to find a direction to get these kids prepared for the physicality. Maybe talk to referees about encouraging a little more rubbing out in PeeWee, which gets them engaged in the play. I will be back next year in the Bantam Division, if you will have me. I love the game and want to put back what I took out!    GO STARS!!

Mark Carlson