2021/2022 U11 BMHA Year End Review

We started the year with 75 registrants in U11. Four mixed preconditioning groups were made and preconditioning skates were ran between October 2nd and October 16th. Each group had 7 preconditioning skates and skaters were evaluated by coaches using the Hockey Canada Evaluation guide. The female sharks started their year with practices on October 2nd.

Teams were made using a draft style format. With Covid still a risk to the community and isolation rules still in effects larger teams were made. Four equal teams of 15 were made with 4 female players and 56 male players. One female also joined a mixed team after first shift. The female Sharks team had 15 players with 3 players coming from out of town.

At the beginning of the year we had covid guidelines in place. Teams had to have a covid rep, players had to sign in before practices and games for tracking attendance, and protocols were followed based on government guidelines. Thank you to everyone for complying with the covid rules and for the extra volunteers and support given for that difficult time.

The female Sharks joined the Sask Female Hockey League and were coached by Bryce Bohun and Assisted by Chris Browne and Amy Hoiseth. The 4 mixed teams joined the U11 STEP League. They were coached by the following:

Team Barons 1 Coach Mike Gerein Asst. Jason Kindratsky and Shaun Nyholt

Team Barons 2 Coach Chris Metlewsky Asst. Cordell Hull and Jack Matilla

Team Barons 3 Coach Kelly Page Asst. Brad Weber and Corey Shiloff

Team Barons 4 Coach Dallas Simmonds Asst. Jason Oborowsky and Micheal Fendelet

The previous year with covid restrictions and no game play we did not have any goalies moving up from U9. This posed a challenge for the rest of the year as we had one team throughout the year that did not have a full time goalie.

Carded evaluations were ran for three sessions October 29th, November 2nd, and November 5th with 3 outside evaluators paid by BMHA to evaluate. We had 34 kids attend evaluations and 15 players were selected for each A and B team. Carded A was coached by Dallas Simmonds and Chris Metlewsky and Carded B was coached by Mike Gerein with Jason Oborowsky and Corey Shiloff assisting.

Carded team practices were ran once per week in the morning starting December 2nd. Carded A attended 4 tournaments and Carded B attended 2 tournaments and played 4 exhibition games.

The table below outlines the amount of practices and games played:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Team | Practices Shared | Practices PM | Practices AM/Seaulteaux | Total Practices | Games | Development (Trach) | Tournaments |
| Barons 1 | 14 | 9 | 13 | 36 | 16 | 5 | 3 |
| Barons 2 | 14 | 10 | 13 | 37 | 16 | 5 | 3 |
| Barons 3 | 12 | 9 | 13 | 34 | 16 | 5 | 4 |
| Barons 4 | 11 | 11 | 13 | 35 | 16 | 5 | 3 |
| Sharks | 8 | 11 | 15 | 34 | 16 | 5 | 3 |
| Carded A |  | 6 | 10 | 16 |  | 1 (Regier)\* | 4 |
| Carded B |  | 8 | 8 | 16 | 4 | 1 (Regier)\* | 2 |

\*Regier development skate was paid for by the teams (ice time and skater fees)

Hockey development guides suggests 34 practice sessions, 3 tournaments, and 32 games for recreation U11 pathway and 60 practices, 3 tournaments, and 46 games for competitive U11 pathway. A year end meeting was held to discuss development and the topic of tiering has come up for this age group throughout the season.

Trach Power Skating delivered 5 skating sessions for the U11 skaters. Each session had 2.5 teams on the ice or up to 40 kids. These skating and skills sessions were a great way to provide extra development as well as a training session for coaches. Although the feedback for these session were inconsistent with majority feeling they did not get enough out of these sessions more needs to be discussed about the number of players on the ice at a time.

In February we had two focus goaltending clinics for the U9/U11 age group. This was very successful and is something that should be considered for next season. We had 19 U9’s attend and 7 U11’s each goalie attended one session. Coaches were also welcome to come on the ice to gain experience.

Our home B tournament was a huge success. We seen 14 teams from all over the province come and support the Battlefords for a fun filled three day tournament. A very big thankyou to the organizers of the tournament for their hard work and dedication to that weekend. Also thank you to all the parents that volunteered those three days to make it run successfully. Proceeds from the tournament were given back to each team and a team decision was made on what to do with those funds. As the tournament fell at the end of February these funds could not be used as efficiently as if the tournament was held earlier in the year.

U11 teamed up with U9 for one of the carded weekends for a fun skate with the North Stars (both Junior and AAA teams). This was highly successful and the kids had a great weekend with their hometown heroes. The members of the Stars were highly engaged with the kids and it was overall a positive experience for all.

Next year U11 will see 29 mixed kids move up from the U9 age group and 36 mixed that stay in U11. The Female Sharks will see 10 girls move up from U9 and 3 that will stay in U11. This will be a total of 65 possible registrants in U11 mixed and 13 registrants for female.

A big thank you to the parent coaches and managers. Our hockey program could not run without you and we are grateful for your support and dedication throughout the season.

Goals for the 2021/2022 season:

* Monthly goalie training with Focus Goaltending
* Better structure for Trach Power Skating
* Implement a recreation and a competitive pathway
* Try to move our tournament earlier so funds made can be used by the teams earlier
* More involvement with both the AAA Stars and the North Stars teams for fun or developmental skates
* Coaches training or symposium and ongoing coaching support throughout the season
* Get ice earlier and make teams earlier to plan the year more efficiently
* Smaller teams of 10-12 players
* Limit the number of AP players per team to 2 at the most

Thanks to everyone for the fun and successful year of hockey. It was great to see games being played again this year and arenas filled with smiles. Looking forward to seeing you back for the 2022-2023 hockey season.

Jolene Strain

U11- Director