

Battlefords Midget Stars – 2017/2018 Year in Review

Board of Directors:

Chairperson: Bruce Yockey

Secretary: Andrea Sparrow

Members at Large: Kevin Russell, Todd Heck, Martin Smith, Jody Reiter, Dana Johnson

Parent Rep: Jim Fennig

Book Keeper: Carmen Menssa

Our Staff for the 2017/2018 season included:

Head Coach: Norm Johnson

Assistant Coach: Lee Ulmer

Trainer: Ron Spence

Manager: Shawn Robinson

This season was a tough season for our program, as we did not have the success in our league that we envisioned for the team at the beginning of the year. A major factor was undisciplined penalties and injuries to key players that resulted in our team not qualifying for playoffs. Plans are well underway to form our team for next season. Norm Johnson will return to coach our club for the 2018/2019 season, unfortunately Assistant Coach Lee Ulmer will not return. We wish Lee all the best in his future hockey endeavors and thank him for the time he dedicated to our program. Coach Johnson has been extremely busy scouting and preparing for next year. We are hosting our spring camp April 20-22 at the Civic Centre and are expecting around 100 players to attend. This will allow us to complete our depth chart and start penciling in a roster for the upcoming season. We will also hold our Annual Awards Banquet on Saturday April 21 at the Legion Hall.

I cannot begin to thank enough all those people who support our club by volunteering their time in many capacities at games and other functions. Thanks to our corporate sponsors for their continued generous support, which allows us to continue to operate our organization. We are extremely grateful to all of our Billets, who open their homes and allow us to accommodate our out of town players.

Rising costs such as ice rental, hotel, meals, equipment etc... continue to create challenges for our program. It now costs \$200 000 to operate our club, But we have a tireless, diligent manager and a dedicated Board of Directors who work hard to ensure that revenues increase as well. Our fiscal year runs until the end of May, so we do not have a complete financial statement, but we predict a profit from this past season. We were very pleased to team up with Valley Ford and NorSask on our lottery and thank them for their support.

The SMAAAHL is a development league, and our program here in the Battlefords has brought increased exposure and opportunities for our players to move to a higher level in hockey. A number of players joined their Jr. A team for the end of the season and playoffs after our season was complete. Although we will not know until next season exactly how many of our players will move to the next level, our team has generated positive feedback and increased exposure from numerous hockey programs from the following:

WHL, SJHL, AJHL, MJHL, BCJHL, and US College programs.

Finally, I wish to thank our entire staff for the time and effort they dedicate to our hockey program. They put in countless hours throughout the season working to better our players and in turn our program.

Bruce Yockey

Chairperson/Governor

Battlefords Midget Stars Hockey Club