



Battlefords Minor Hockey Association Box 684 N.Battleford Sk S9A 2Y9 Phone: 1(306)446-3393 Email:bmha@sasktel.net Fax:1(306)446-0555

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The season got off to a quick start with try-outs at the Civic Centre on September 15-17. We ended up with 38 registered, which included 4 goalies. Martin Smith, Derek Keller, Gene Fauchon, Jordan Solomko assisted with try-out evaluations. Two out-of-town players originally made the team but declined a role on the team during the onboarding interview process.

The final team consisted on 9 Forwards, 6 Defense, and 2 Goalies (2 Debden, 2 Spiritwood, 1 Shell Lake, and 12 from the Battlefords). Our first league game was against Prince Albert at the Civic Centre on September 30, 2017. We quickly learned how fast and strong the league was as the first 2 games against Prince Albert ended up one sided in favour of PA. Out of 7 Teams we finished last in the league, with 3 points: 1 Win 22 Losses 1 Tie. We played the league champs in the first round of play-offs losing 8-2 in game 1 and 12-2 in game 2.

Although some of the scores seemed one-sided the Barons won several periods, and competed with top league teams on several occasions. The league just always capitalizes on mistakes and defensively we seemed to be focused on scoring as apposed to being 2 way players, which reflected in high scoring losses.

What worked well?

- Trach Power Skating offered early in the year, provided a good base for players and coaches to build off of.
- Martin Smith - Coach Mentor managed to come out to the Pee Wee AA Practices this year and provided some valuable input and guidance for the team (Need to ensure that he comes out earlier so the adjustments are worked in)
- Meeting with the Brendan Kramer- 2016/2017 Pee Wee AA Head Coach , prior to try-outs for insight on what to expect for the season, Brendan was able to provide valuable direction and support to kick off the year, based on the previous year. (Try-out templates, Expectations, Parent Meeting, Fundraising Benchmarks, and League Play, Barons Mentor support)

What didn't work so well?

- Not having a Manager & Assistant Coaches, Mentors going into try-outs and pre season – we will need to identify a process to informally finalize the staff and managers for the team to ensure that tryouts, scheduling meeting, parent meeting, and season get off to a structured start. (becomes somewhat overwhelming for one person)

Moving Forward:

- Would be a good idea to have a coaching manual/guide similar to other hockey associations for consistency.
- Would be good ideal for coaches to have a network or resource section to utilize for consistency in team management, process, yearly plan, development strategies, practice expectations, and top drills group, or network.
- Affiliates will need to be utilized in more depth for succession planning.
- We lost several players to league teams, as they wanted to play on the provincial team as appose to AA Hockey how do we change that preference?

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