



2020 Annual General Meeting
Cranbrook Minor Hockey Association
Thursday, June 11th, 2020
Via Zoom, Cranbrook BC

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER and WELCOME
2. President's Message
3. Awards for Officials
4. Announcement of Partnership with Cranbrook Bucks
5. Review and Adopt Minutes from 2019 AGM
6. Review and Adopt Financial Report from 2018/19
7. Financial Statement and Treasurer's Report
8. Year End Reports (attached)
9. Elections of Executive Officers
10. Elections of Directors
11. New Business
 - COVID and Minor Hockey moving forward
 - Partnership between CMHA and the Cranbrook Bucks
 - CMHA and KMHA merger
12. Open Discussion
13. Next CMHA Board Meeting will be scheduled for Thursday, June 18, 2020 at 6:30pm. Location TBD
14. Adjournment



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings CMHA Membership,

I would like to welcome you all to the 2020 Annual General Meeting and thank you for joining in on this virtual meeting. We were very hopeful to host our AGM in person again this year, although as you are likely aware, BC Health Officials continue to limit the number of individuals allowed to gather in person together; therefore, as we needed to host our AGM in June we proceeded through Zoom.

On behalf of our entire board we hope that everyone is staying healthy and supporting the initiatives imposed to hopefully get us all back in the “new normal” as soon as possible!

We greatly appreciate you taking the time to join us this evening and cannot stress enough how important it is to have the support and feedback of our membership in order to continue to build on the strides we have been making year after year. We continue to strive to be a transparent and progressive organization that offers excellent developmental and competitive opportunities in fun learning environments for children of all ages.

In our Board's opinion, the 2019/2020 was seen to be successful in so many ways; however, we certainly recognize there is always room for improvements, and I can honestly say that we have an excellent group of CMHA representatives who dedicate countless volunteer hours to the best interests of all children in our association. We all understand that sometimes Board decisions may not always be supported by everyone, but the focus of our Board is to provide as many opportunities for all kids moving forward and we really encourage anyone who would like to be a part of pro-social change for our association to consider becoming a Board member to support our endless cause to be the best association possible.

As the largest association between the Okanagan and Southern Alberta, we want to put more emphasis on retaining players in Cranbrook as long as possible, and strive to not only develop the skills of boys and girls who wish to possibly pursue hockey opportunities after their minor hockey career, but more importantly teach and mentor our youth to become the best young people they possibly can be through sharing the values of teamwork, being accountability for your actions and focusing on a positive never quit attitude.

We are very excited about the future of CMHA and this year as most of you are likely aware, we have some very exciting changes for the upcoming season, including our new partnership with Nathan Lieuwen and the Cranbrook Bucks, who are the newest team in the BC Junior Hockey League. Furthermore, we have reached an agreement with KMHA to merge our programs between Pee wee and Midget and we are already recognizing a record number of players interested in trying out for competitive programs at each division. These are two key pieces that will form the basis of a new identity for CMHA's future!

Although there are still many uncertainties with how Minor Hockey will look exactly for the upcoming season, we are still moving ahead full steam and remain in very close contact with



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BC Hockey on a weekly basis. We do know that there will be hockey for sure and more information will be distributed as soon as it becomes available.

In closing I would like to express how proud I am to be a part of the Cranbrook Minor Hockey Board, including the direction we are working so hard to maintain and improve upon. I would also like to take this opportunity to share my significant appreciation and admiration for my fellow Board members, as well as the volunteers who dedicate so much time throughout the year to make our children's experience as positive and memorable as possible.

On behalf of our entire Board and membership I would like to also say thank you to Bobby Jo Hekob who put in countless hours both behind the scenes as our Registrar for many years, as well as the fore front of various programs that made so many of our jobs that much easier. All the best to you Bobby Jo, and on that note... we are extremely happy to welcome Lyndsay Osterlund to CMHA as our new Registrar!

Finally, I would also like to thank the past presidents who I have had the pleasure to volunteer under, who gave so much of their time and energy to build on the many positive strengths our association continues to strive for. I have learned many valuable lessons from each one of you and our strengths are certainly attributed to your passion for our great association!

Yours truly,

Justin Campbell
CMHA President



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CMHA YEAR END REPORTS

OFFICIALS REPORT

We would like to thank all our officials for another great year! We were very fortunate to have a lot of new young people get on board and continue to have some great experienced officials to mentor them. I don't think everyone realizes how lucky we are to have this many officials who are dedicated to our association and still love to be in the game. This season was probably the smoothest for scheduling officials, even though we had more games to cover this crew was great to work with. Although we had many great candidates for both of these recognition awards, we would like to congratulate two of our officials for the excellent jobs they did throughout the season.

Rookie Official of the Year

Congratulations to Nolan Lamond who is very deserving to be recognized as our Rookie of the Year! Nolan had his ref bag on him from the minute the clinic ended to the last day of hockey, just in case he was ever needed to help teams out. He was a great presence on the ice with the kids and is well on his way to having a great relationship with coaches as well. He always showed up on time and was ready and eager to work and learn. He carries himself with confidence on the ice and not afraid to blow that whistle!

Congratulations Nolan on being named the CMHA 2019/2020 Rookie Official of the Year!!!

Official of the Year

Congratulations to Darian Johnson, who is one of awesome veteran referees! Darian has always stood out for both his dedication and his fun personality. He continues to build relationships with players and coaches and takes time to mentor when called upon. Darian, among others, were very fair to CMHA this year and split their time ensuring we were never short on assistance. He was always willing to fill in and we appreciated his great nature on and off the ice.

Congratulations Darian on receiving the CMHA 2019/2020 Official of the Year Award as chosen by the coaches.

We would also like to recognize four other officials who we picked in a random draw for a \$100 cheque each to say thank you for their involvement and dedication. Congratulations to Nick Jensen, Leo Gauthier, Zack Gauthier and Kyra Doehle!

I wish both officials, as well as the entire officiating crew, success in the coming season on and off the ice! Thank you all for all your dedication and time over the years, it is greatly appreciated!!

Bobby-Jo



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FINANCIAL REPORT

The 2019/20 season concluded with an overall balanced budget. There were many contributing factors, here are some examples:

- Registration revenue was up this year and hopefully this trend continues.
- Ice Rental Expense was down \$23,000 from 2 years ago (2018/2019 year memorial rink was down for 1st half of the season so it's up from that year)
- Shared ice practices and games for younger players
- The \$60,000 community gaming grant

CMHA is looking into options of revenue from some home tournaments through our new gaming committee. We hope that this will help replace lost funds that the 50/50 previously brought in. The application for another community gaming grant has been applied for and this would be used for player and program development. Of note, we were please to be able to keep fees the same as last year and it is a goal to keep these fees as low as possible for families.

Looking ahead to the upcoming season, we are in the process of partnering with sponsors to purchase the new Cranbrook Bucks jerseys and will be able to continue to keep up with our players needs. Important programs including concussion testing for the rep teams (peewee and up) and goalie clinics will be discussed. With CMHA's careful planning, we foresee the association will be able to continue to grow while keeping it affordable for families. On page two, find comparison of 2019's expenses to what is budgeted for 2020.

The Revenue/Expense, Profit/Loss, and Balance sheets will all be attached to the email you receive.

Todd Kostiuk
CMHA Treasurer

INITIATION(PUPS) DIVISION

This was a fantastic season for pups as we had a lot of interest from new players joining hockey and we grew to 26 players by the beginning of December. After the holidays we split in to two 'teams' so we could have smaller groups for each practice. This was easier for our coaches to manage and allowed each player more time doing and less time waiting. We also joined both teams twice a month for a joint practice/game which was very well received by players and parents.

At the start of the year many of the kids had trouble skating, or couldn't skate at all, but by the end of the season they were moving around the ice with much more confidence. During our 'games' it was fun to see the kids trying to do some passing and shooting and man, they sure got excited when they scored!!



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Shout out to Tim Hortons for sponsoring Pups and for also providing drinks, treats, medals and a gift for our year end party. Also a special shout out to our wonderful volunteers which did a fantastic job keeping the season well organized and fun;

Head Coaches: Colin Sinclair, Mark Eagles

Bench Helpers: Chris Pinch, Jenn Postlethwaite, Rory Hoyt, Ryley Hunter, Evan Kleindienst, Gordie Frew, and Chris Hill.

I managed the Pups this year and had a great time getting to know the players and their families.

Everyone was eager to be involved and a pleasure to work with.

Kim Eagles

Initiation Division Head

INITIATION(MITES) DIVISION

Mites also had a great season with a lot of interest from new players. By the end of the season we had 25 players. The players were split in to two teams from the start of the season and enjoyed playing some games against each other and even a few games against neighboring associations. As well, they also participated in two out of town tournaments which everyone really enjoyed.

We started with a range in player ability at the start of the year with some players barely knowing how to skate. At season end, all the kids showed huge growth in their skating ability, and most were even able to pass, shoot and score! It was pretty fun to watch, and we had a great group of players families/friends come out to support the kids. They were almost are starting to look like hockey players!

Big shout out to Tim Hortons for sponsoring Mites and for also providing drinks, treats, medals and a gift for our year end party. Also, a special shout out to our dedicated volunteers who all did an amazing job making this season a great success. We had so many parents willing to help, so apologies if anyone gets missed.

Head Coaches: Todd Leffler

Bench Helpers: Reto Heiz, Evan Thomson, Chris Nault, Russ Swain, Bernie Kennedy and Jason Richardson.

Managers: Cathy Gaudord

Kim Eagles

Initiation Division Head



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NOVICE DIVISION

The 2019/2020 Novice season was a great success, due some great coaches/on-ice volunteers(about 30 in total!), managers and parent volunteers.

We had 69 kids (7 & 8 years old) signed up in the division by the end of the year, spread out over 6 teams.

In keeping with CMHA Policy, all teams practiced, with no games, until December 1st. Skills developed a great deal as a result, and by December the kids were itching to get into some games! From that point forward teams practiced once a week and played at least one game per week as well. A change from last year had our division playing two games at once in the Memorial Arena on Monday nights, which was a great success. With 4 teams on the ice, the atmosphere in the arena was awesome!

All teams played two away tournaments and then we had our end of year home tournament on the first weekend in March. The home tournament was a great success and raised enough money to refund all team tournament fees and equipment costs for the year. As most of you know, a home tournament is a lot of work (especially for a 16 team tournament!), so I owe a huge thank you to all the parents and family members that volunteered their time to make it a success!

Overall, it was a great year and a positive experience for most of our young hockey players and their families!

Todd Leffler
Novice Division Head

ATOM DIVISION

Head Coaches:

Cam Geddes	Colin Sinclair	Joe Detta
Stacey Paulsen	Tyrell Moulton	Todd Kostiuk

Another fantastic year in Cranbrook Minor Hockey Atom Division. First, I want to begin by thanking the coaches, managers and parents who without their dedication and strength we would not have had the success we did.

We had a high enrollment in Atom this year and were able to ice a total of five teams in the House league. We had 68 players in the league not including the Jets to begin the season and by all accounts the kids were engaged and having fun. We held an evaluation at the start of the season to gauge the players skill set so to ensure the teams were as



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even as possible. The coaches and managers were very happy with how the players were divided and overall each team iced a very competitive team.

This year we introduced a round robin and playoff format to end the year. The games were competitive and fun to watch with the final game being a bit of a nail biter and going right to final whistle. The Candy Cup was awarded to the hard fought and well-deserved winner, The Huskies.

The A and B teams had a good year with lots of development and a great group of coaches who were ensuring the kids got the most out of their time with the competitive teams. There was some concern throughout the year from coaches and parents alike that the kids who played on the recreation teams and “B” team were getting too much ice time and risked getting burned out. The board considered these concerns and will be addressing them come the start of the new season.

The Atom division did not have a home tournament this year due to logistics. The board and I will look strongly at the possibility and feasibility of hosting one next season. We know the kids enjoy it, the parents enjoy coming home at night, and it can be a good overall boost. Each team had two “away tournaments” and were allowed to attend a tournament close to home as their “home” tournament.

Once again, I want to give a very special thanks to the coaches and managers. It’s a difficult job which demands so much of their own personal time and without them we could not function. I’m sure if you asked each one they would all say that it also has its own reward, but they really deserve any and all accolades they receive.

I also want to take this moment to thank my fellow board members and those who helped me transition through my rookie year on the board. You made the difficult transition all that much smoother.

To conclude the report, I am looking forward to next year, fingers crossed the pandemic has subsided, and we have another fun and successful year.

Thank you,

Aaron Byng-Hall
Atom Division Head



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PEEWEE DIVISION

HOUSE PROGRAM

The Pee wee house program had one fewer team this season from the year before, which made Wednesday evening "game nights" for only two of the three teams. Teams rotated sitting out and were able to invite out of town teams to play or come up with alternate uses for their ice time on the same evening. This was a downfall that reduced the amount of home town house league games.

Monday was practice night with two teams sharing Western Financial Place and the third team having Memorial ice to themselves. There were mixed feelings about 1/2 ice practices at the Pee wee level, in particular, the number of kids on the ice. All in all, it worked out.

Team skill levels fluctuated as some players quit mid-season. There was one trade made mid-season by a player who volunteered to help out the situation, which helped level out the teams. Having the Development players in house added lots of skill and competitiveness to games and tournament competition.

It was great that the Development team called up some players to join in their practices, great exposure for the house league players.

Teams were large with 15-17 players, but at this age often players had other commitments and sometimes there would be 8-10 players per team at practice, but usually 90-100% at games!

Jeff Scott
Pee wee Division Head

PEEWEE B WINGS

This year overall was a huge success from a coaching standpoint. The kids that made the development team were all keen to learn, work hard and had a great attitude. From day one the chemistry in the room was amazing and I knew we would over achieve. We played in three tournaments, including our home tournament, Springbank Thanksgiving Classic and the Tri City Presidents Day Cup. In these three tournaments we finished with two gold medals and a silver. Amazing accomplishment and it made the kids proud to be a King and they earned those wins. Absolute battles in the Finals.

As I have brought up at board meetings, the back and forth between higher level hockey and house was very taxing as a coach, but more so you could see it on the players. It was very hard for them to adjust to high level pace with higher quality players around them with a coach that had expectations on effort and attitude, then go back to house where they would



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play different and the same work ethic isn't required for recreational hockey. More importantly it was hard on the kids playing against one another week in and week out in the house program, and then sit in a Kings locker room together after maybe "taking a greasy hit" from one of their team mates. I could see it was tough on the kids and a lot of them were verbal about it to me how they disliked the back and forth. I sincerely think if there aren't enough players, which does occur in certain years, then it would make sense to forego a development team at all and just keep the house program strong.

The amount the kids were on the ice was also an issue in my opinion. One house practice, one house game, one Kings practice, plus league games, plus the three Kings tourneys, plus house tourneys.

I think the Kings played 22 games (so two over recommended), but by the end of the year it sure seemed like we lived at the rink.

In summation, overall fantastic year. Just a future suggestion would be if the numbers aren't there for stand alone, then just keep house strong.

Dustin Willoughby
Kings Head Coach

PEEWEE A WINGS

The Pee Wee AA Wings had a very successful season on the ice. In total we played 44 games consisting of 31 league games, 4 league playoff games and 9 tournament/exhibition games. Unfortunately, due to COVID 19 we were not able to attend Provincials in Penticton but if we were able, we would have finished with a very comfortable 47-49 game season which is perfect for U13 level hockey.

Our team played in the South Central Alberta Hockey League(SCAHL) and although we had a slow start, our design and philosophy to the season started to take shape as the weeks wore on. To expand, we view the season in two parts.... first half is the Development phase where we become accustomed to Team Culture and learning new skills and strategies. In the second half the execution phase arrives in which accountability towards expectations to execute, act on and implement our first half learnings. If you look at our record over the course of the season there is no question that this approach was adhered to and reflected our philosophy. We finished the SCAHL playoffs winning 14 out of our final 17 games. We lost to the eventual league winner twice and the runner up once over this timeframe. Making the semi-finals of the league playoff and finishing 4th overall in the SCAHL was the best result a Cranbrook team has had in the PW Division in many years. Although the on-ice achievement was significant the highlight of the year was the positive comments by other teams and Coaches and parents which recognized the little things



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our players and Coaches did to represent our team, our community and our Association in a positive light. Hockey is important but helping mold good people is paramount.

With this being my 3rd year Coaching at this level, I can tell you the amount of preparation, time and energy put into running a SCAHL team is constant, as it never ends. I couldn't have asked for better support from our dedicated and caring team staff. From Coaches to Volunteers it takes commitment. I would like to thank Brett Virostek, Wayne Wiemer, Jody Roberts and Dawn Virostek for all of the effort they put forth in putting kids first. I would also like to thank all of our other volunteers who gave significant amounts of their days to help with safety, discipline and goalie development.

This season was not easy and there were many lessons learned that will hopefully manage to be positively transferred to whatever future hockey opportunity is earned.

Pete Stefano
Wings Head Coach

BANTAM DIVISION

HOUSE PROGRAM

1. Crystal Glass (Miles Chisholm, Craig Cawte and Jason Richardson)
2. Ok Tire Coaches (Stacey Paulson, Eric Johnson)

Our Bantam house program was comprised of two teams which had one game and one practice per week. Practices were one hour long, and games were one and half hours against each other every week. The teams both did two travel tournaments, and they both attended the same locations.

Feedback we received from some parents, players and coaches included how it was difficult for players to be combined in both the "B" and "house" programs. This was challenging due to the different levels of development and compete amongst all of the kids. When you combine more developed players with those who either chose to play less competitive hockey or have not had the experience of competitive hockey, it becomes a more challenging from the coaching perspective, we as contributed to frustration at time for players of both calibers.

This also contributed to differing opinions for families as some felt the amount of hockey was plenty with one game and one practice per week; however, others felt were frustrated that they couldn't be on the ice more often. Only having two teams also added to animosity between the players towards the end of the year, so it would be far more beneficial to try and have the house teams play other teams to alleviate some of these feelings.



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From speaking to some families, and I am aware this is not everyone's opinion, but I think it would be more beneficial to separate recreational and competitive players when possible and even consider mixing house programs between Peewee and Bantam or Bantam and Midget for added numbers in the house program and allow the more competitive players to have the added opportunities they are looking for added development.

Chantelle Cawte
Bantam House/Development Manager

BANTAM DEVELOPMENT/TIER 4 HORNETS

Coaches: Craig Cawte, Miles Chisholm and Jason Richardson

As noted above, the players on this team were also a part of the Bantam house program, so in addition to the one game and one practice, they also had an additional early morning practice for 45 minutes each week. We also played as part of the East Kootenay League, which included 10 league games, a preseason tournament and a year end banner tournament

The team also played two additional tournaments and three exhibition games, so in total 30 development level games.

As noted above, the combination of players on the development team playing house as well made for numerous challenges...

1. The kids never really came together as a team as they some would compete against each other in the house program and adopt different habits at each level.
2. Lack of practice/game ice time for the development team made it difficult to gel in practices, which translated into games as well.
3. The biggest challenge at the Bantam level was players having to go between contact and non-hockey, which proved to be a safety concern at times as players were often very hesitant to engage physically after playing with their house teams.
4. Tryouts at this level would be very beneficial to ensure players end up at the right level. The team also ended up with three goalies, which made it very difficult for fair rotation.

I think the best move for everyone involved at this level would be a separation from house and development/rep hockey.

Chantelle Cawte
Bantam House/Development Manager



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BANTAM TIER 3 HORNETS

Coaches: Roman Vopat, Max Andrew, Brent Grainger, Jeff Fancy

The Bantam Hornets returned to the South Central Alberta Hockey League(SCAHL) in the 2019/20 season after a voluntary absence the previous year due to low numbers. This is a very competitive AA caliber league where the Hornets competed very hard and battled to finish approximately middle of the south division. The team played 3 pre-season games, 38 league games between regular season and playoffs, and hosted a home tournament. The feedback from families involved was very positive as the SCAHL is an excellent developmental league with high end AA competition.

Unfortunately, as was the case with the Pee wee and Midget rep programs, the Hornets were unable to attend Provincials as scheduled due to the COVID 19 situation.

Justin Campbell
Bantam Division Head

MIDGET DIVISION

Another tight year for numbers in Midget saw only a couple of cuts to the midget Tier 3 team, while the Midget House program had too many for one team and not enough for two teams. This made it difficult to roster big tournament teams and to have enough kids at the home tournament with two teams.

The House team did manage to attend a few tournaments, but without any other recreational teams in the East Kootenay League, these were the only opportunities to play. Thank you to Don Demarchi and Jeff Scott for stepping up to coach this year!

The Tier 3 kids played in both the East Kootenay and West Kootenay League, as well as attended several tournaments to combine for 50 games at the spring break mark. This schedule is a lot of work, but the East Kootenay League only had three teams this year so a second league was very beneficial. While the West Kootenay teams were a bit stronger, as they didn't have a Regional program, the kids still had quite a successful season competing with those teams as well.

Unfortunately, due to COVID, the Midget Tier 3 team was unable to attend Provincials and also had to cancel their year end tournament in Las Vegas.

Thanks to all of the volunteers that make this possible, we appreciate everyone!

Bobby-Jo Hekob
Midget Division Head



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FEMALE REPORT

The Female program was alive and well this season with 60 plus girls participating in drop-in Tuesdays, Atom Female Development or playing integrated hockey. The drop-in program is an important stepping stone for the girls to be introduced to hockey in a non competitive, no pressure atmosphere based on fun drills and basic skill development with other females. Not every girl needs to be with other girls to build confidence, but the numbers don't lie, and they are on the rise!

Tuesday drop-in saw anywhere from 15-28 skaters per session and it would have been impossible without Kyra Doehle and Skylar Paulsen helping out. I have heard that some of these girls are signed up for full on integrated hockey next season and that makes me happy and proud!

The Atom Female team once again attracted 19 skaters to play games against the Elk Valley team and participate in two tournaments, including our very own Atom Home Tourney as well as one in Okotoks.

At the beginning of the season, I ran an Esso Fun Day to recruit new players to try out our great sport and this contributed to the many new faces this season.

The season was a lot of work to schedule and organize and needs a dedicated person to be working on it to keep it alive. It was worth every ounce of hard work though to see the smiles and watch the progress. Special thank you to Todd Kostiuk, Randi Morrison, Kyra Doehle and Skylar Paulsen, for your countless hours on and off ice with these amazing groups!

Bobby-Jo
Female Coordinator

COACH COORDINATOR REPORT

The 2019/2020 season was my first year in this role and with any new position comes growing pains. I believe we made a lot of progress last year and I'm excited about some of the upcoming developments for the 2020/2021 season and the direction that this board is heading.

Last season, Coach interviews and selections were completed earlier than normal. This allowed us to name coaches within the first week of July which resulted in these coaches having more time to plan and schedule their seasons and to book tournaments. This also gave more time for myself, coaches and the board to plan and prepare for tryouts.



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We used this as the basis of why we moved the rep registration earlier this year. This has allowed us more time to evaluate numbers and the feasibility of having standalone rep teams while maintaining healthy recreational level numbers.

The player evaluations went well with no significant complaints or concerns. I learned a lot from this process, and I believe those lessons learned will improve our evaluation process for the upcoming season.

This season, one of the biggest changes has been the merger with Kimberley for the U13 – U18 levels. I'm excited about the benefits that this will have for our association. The merger will improve our numbers and has led to the development of "The City League", which will provide a full league feel for our recreational level players.

I'm also excited to work with Kimberley through the Coach and Player evaluations. This deepens our rep level coaching pool and we've agreed to work together to select the best coaches available for each level. The merger will also result in an even balance of unbiased evaluators.

We're currently working on an "evaluation process" matrix to provide more information on the process for both parents and players while increasing our transparency to our membership.

Dave Kaczowka
Coach Coordinator



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