# Annual Report Director of Athlete Development, Brad Jenkins

Season: 2024/25



#### **Accomplishments:**

- With the support of the Board, started and led the development of a U16 Tier 1 program in FYRA.
- Ran early Tier 1 tryouts, FYRA was first in the province to be on the ice and running tryouts.
- By having early Tier 1 tryouts complete, it allowed community evals and draft to be early.
- Coordinated many off-ice evaluators for Tier 1 tryouts and community assessments.
- Developed the idea of monthly development themes and structured practice plans to help coaches have a structured development plan, this was done with the Director of Coaching.
- Coordinated running an FYRA Holiday Shooting Challenge for a Pizza Party in each age group of u10, u12, u14, u16/19 and u12/14/16 Tier 1 teams. Those who participated saw great improvement and success with their shooting ability. There was awesome buy in at levels this season, which was evident on the ice in games.
- Organized Practice Theme session for all coaches to help plan their practices for athlete development. Attended many community practices to see the themes being implemented.
- Successful Power Skating sessions throughout the season, about 95% of the time on 2 surfaces, for some of the early season 3 surfaces. Thank you to the great coaches for their dedication to early mornings!! Thank you to Shawn Forster for the plans.
- Organized and coordinated having the RNB HP players give back to the association for their grant.
- Partnered again with FYHA to have pylons stored in the rink for easy access for coaches.
- Purchased (with FYHA) 5 rebounders to share at all the rinks. This was to help with passing and reception.
- Ran 4 development sessions on March break with the help of HP and U16T1 players

## **Challenges:**

- Finding days and ice-time to run development days where teams are not playing or travelling, or not taking limited ice time away from teams who wanted it.
- We had lots of ice this season, we could have arranged more local games on weeknights.
- Finding the time to get the RNB HP players on the ice to give back, some were more willing and available than others. Would like modify the program for next year.

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### **Outlook for coming Season:**

- Summer power skating ice times. (Aug/Sept)
- Early tryouts and community assessments to get FYRA teams on the ice and practicing as teams before other associations.
- Will continue to grow the monthly skill theme practice plan bank and program to help coaches and athletes develop.
- Revamp the RNP HP Grant payback program to make it easier for the athletes to participate with a team for the season.
- Securing more equipment for skill development.
- Looking at more opportunities to keep more girls on the ice longer.
- Working with coaches and managers to develop a good practice schedule, while also making sure we make use of weekday ice on certain weeks to arrange local exhibition games.