

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE JPHL

MARCH 2025 EDITION













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FEATURE ARTICLE WRITTEN BY TYREL SPITZER

HOCKEY TIP OF THE MONTH

FROM THE BOOTH



JUNIOR PROSPECTS HOCKEY LEAGUE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• <u>Calgary Stallions Return</u> – The Calgary Stallions are rejoining the JPHL 17U division for the 2025-26 season! *Read more here*.

• <u>15U JPHL Draft Series – April 11-13, 2025</u>

The JPHL Draft Series is an exciting event where 15U players are drafted onto different teams, combining elite competition with community impact. Throughout the event, teams will wear charity-specific jerseys and socks, raising funds for their chosen causes.

We encourage the JPHL Community to support these initiatives—donate to the team fundraisers below:

- HC Edmonton Staff Youth Empowerment & Support Services (YESS): *Donate here*
- Titans Staff Little Warriors: Donate here
- Calgary Rockies Staff Hope Mission: Donate here
- Coquitlam Staff Fostering Hope: Donate here
- Langley Staff Children's Cottage: Donate here

• ID Skates – Contact your coach or Hub GM for details. *Register here*.

SISE Referee Combine - Langley, BC | April 11-13

Space is limited—*register now* to secure your spot!

For more information, contact:

- Market Starbart Blazarowich@bchl.ca
- 🐸 Scott Fulmer ric@silentice.com



LETTER FROM THE COMMISSIONER BY RICHARD NAULT

As we prepare for the 2025-26 season, we find ourselves humbled and excited by the incredible growth of the Junior Prospects Hockey League (JPHL). While it may seem like the next season is still months away, our planning efforts for the next season are already in full swing. The level of interest in expanding the league has been truly flattering, with a consistent influx of weekly applications for new Hubs and teams, and even organizations from other models reaching out to explore the opportunity to join our community.

At the JPHL, we take pride in managing our growth with a strategic focus on quality. We believe in nurturing the teams and Hubs already within the league before we consider expanding our geographical footprint. This approach ensures that our growth remains sustainable and continues to provide the best experience for our athletes and families.

Looking ahead to the 2025-26 season, we are excited to announce that the JPHL will grow from 35 teams to just under 50! This expansion will mark another milestone in our journey and showcase how modern hockey is evolving, with the JPHL playing a key role in shaping the future of the sport. As you may have seen on our social media channels, we are incredibly proud of the progress modern hockey has made in recent years, and our contribution to the new landscape is something we will continue to build upon.





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LETTER FROM THE COMMISSIONER BY RICHARD NAULT

Next season alone, modern hockey will represent 350 teams across the Pacific Canadian region, with an estimated 5,900 athletes competing across AB/BC/Sask. This growth is not limited to just the teams—our officiating community is also seeing a major boost. We are excited to announce that more officials are advancing to the junior and professional ranks, a testament to the quality of development within our league.

As part of our commitment to fostering development in all aspects of the game, we are also excited to host our first-ever SISE Referee Combine in Langley, BC, from April 11-13. This event will further strengthen our officiating development and contribute to the overall growth of the league.

There's no doubt that the JPHL is experiencing an exciting phase of growth, and we can't wait to share the journey with all of you. Thank you for being a part of this incredible community, and we look forward to what's ahead in the JPHL Playoff season as our athletes compete for the Prospects Cup!



FEATURE ARTICLE

Playoffs are here, and as our competition season comes to an end, Junior invites will start hitting inboxes –if they haven't already. Now is a great time to ensure your information is accurate and that the email provided is one that gets checked regularly, rather than an athlete inbox where emails go to perish.

You might have a few questions:

I can't play Junior next year due to age -should I still attend?

I have multiple options; which camp should I choose?

How many camps should I attend?

How many spots are available?

Even if you're too young to play Junior next season, I still recommend signing up for a camp. Gaining firsthand experience of how a camp operates, what's expected, and the level of play required to succeed is invaluable. Hearing the terminology and observing how Junior-level players prepare and reflect on practices and exhibiton games will give you a better understanding of how to prepare for your next camp.

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FEATURE ARTICLE

If you've had personal contact with a Junior franchise - whether through a manager, team staff, or scout - that means at least one person in the organization sees potential in your game and believes in you enough to invite you personally. This kind of direct interest is valuable, as there are many talented players out there. When an organization takes the time to connect, it's worth considering their camp seriously.

Once you've identified a few different camps, be strategic with your choices. Don't overload your offseason with Junior camps - jumping from one to the next will make it difficult to maintain a high level of play. These camps are a grind, and you should be well-prepared before attending.

Lastly, consider how many spots are available. This number can fluctuate, as current rostered players can always be upgraded if needed. Keep this in mind when evaluating your options, as opportunities may shift throughout the process.



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TIP TIME WITH ADAM REDMOND

Creating Good Habits In Every Drill

It's important for your players to instill good habits in every drill, whether it's communication, or stopping on pucks or hunting down rebounds. Make sure those habits are held accountable in every rep your players take.

When I am working with a lot of our younger coaches in our HSL programs, I see them frequently start with pass and receive drills or flow drills. Often a lot of the coaches are focused on how the drill looks rather than the actual key teaching points and how they will affect the player within his/her in-game habits.

I often see players take a shot and peel to the corner or head to the back of the line because the next player is already on his way behind him. This will translate into poor habits of turning away from loose pucks or rebounds.

Instead allow more time between reps so that players are able to track and hunt pucks or rebounds. If a goalie saves and directs the puck to the corner, have the player hunt it quickly and bring the puck back to the line or add a coach as a support outlet. This will help your players and team create a good culture of puck recovery and help with creating secondary scoring opportunities.

By simply making these small changes to every day drills it will help create culture and good habits from start to finish.



FROM THE BY DEAN MILLARD

The Playoffs are bittersweet. It's the most exciting hockey with the most on the line. It's also the end of the season for all and for some the end of their youth hockey.

Heading into the third championship season and the first featuring the Prospects Cup, here are my top three playoff moments.

3. The McDougall Angle – Last year in the 15U championship, HC Edmonton's Brock McDougall called game in overtime. It makes this list because of the celebration caught on camera by Dean 'The Spaceman' Twardzik. His angle, used by our crew in slow motion, is a work of art.

2. The Okanagan upset – The 14U squad from Okanagan had 10 fewer wins than Island HC last year, but pulled off the upset in three games, with the clinching line from Jagraj as 'from undesirable to undeniable' is a video clip that OHC players will show their grandchildren someday and tell them it was the NHL!

1. Creran pulls it off the goal line – Going back to the first year championship final, Ethan Creran made a wonderful play, pulling the puck off the goal line before it snuck across, and what makes this play even more special is the expanded broadcast meant we had a POV from behind the net, and trust me, I made them wear out the replay machine showing it over and over.



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THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS!

















