

SPECIAL EDITION

SZLN 3

Snapshot



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE JPHL

OCTOBER 2024 EDITION



SZN 3 *Snapshot*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Winter Championship Schedule will be posted on the website in the coming days
- New Hats and 8-bit logo Hoodies now available on the JPHL Shop at jphlwear.com
- There will be a Sports Nutrition Seminar by JPHL Sports Dietitian Emily Mardell for Athletes and Parents on Nov 6th at 8pm MST. More info to follow
- The Surrey Eagles Hockey Academy will join the JPHL for the 2025-26 season with 14U & 18U teams! For more information, click [HERE](#)





LETTER FROM THE COMMISSIONER

BY RICHARD NAULT

Did you know?

At the Junior Prospects Hockey League (JPHL), we're constantly looking for ways to enhance player development, provide new opportunities, and create a competitive environment. As such I want to highlight one of our key initiatives: the JPHL Universal Affiliation Policy. The policy is designed to broaden the scope of opportunities for our players while creating greater internal collaboration across our league.

In traditional models and policy, typical affiliation opportunities are limited to the singular franchise or organization whereby affiliation opportunities are minimized. For example, if franchise ABC has a streak of good fortune and the older team has no injuries or sickness, the players in the younger team below them lose out even though an athlete is capable and deserving of the opportunity.

In our model and policy, Affiliated Players (AP) also have the ability to play for multiple JPHL teams/Hubs during Showcase weekends. This flexibility is a game-changer for athletes, giving them a chance to increase their exposure, experience new team dynamics, and build relationships with coaches and teammates from different teams and Hubs. For our players, this means more chances to showcase their talents, gain valuable experience, and grow as athletes throughout the season. Athletes are not bound to one Hub or another...it's universal! *Continued on page 3*





LETTER FROM THE COMMISSIONER

BY RICHARD NAULT

In keeping with our open-border DNA, this policy reaffirms our commitment to providing players the freedom to pursue the best opportunities available to them. The Universal Affiliation Policy reflects a fluid and free-market approach to player development.

Additionally, the policy strengthens inter-Hub relationships within the JPHL. For teams, they can tap into a broader pool of talent, ensuring that players and teams are operating at their highest potential, even when faced with absences or injuries. The collaborative atmosphere this policy fosters is designed for mutual benefit and to deepen the family atmosphere within the league.

Ultimately, this initiative provides opportunities for development throughout the entire season, allowing players to experience different coaching styles, systems, and competition levels. It's a move that supports the long-term success of our athletes in the JPHL.

Having said that, I would like to thank all of the other Commissioners for their contributions to this edition of our newsletter. Long term success is ultimately about the people involved and the JPHL is extra fortunate to be surrounded by incredible leaders from the BCHL, HSL and FSL. This formulates an integrated pathway with many athlete-centric policies within; Universal Affiliation being one of them!





LETTER FROM THE COMMISSIONER

BY STEVEN COCKER

Over the past five seasons, and more specifically in the past two as an independent league, the BCHL has continued to get stronger. The easiest way to gauge the strength of our league is by our college commitments; since 2021-22, we have broken our commit record each season with 173 in 2022 (9.6 per team), 190 in 2023 (10.6 per team), 294 in 2024 (13.4 per team), and on pace to eclipse the 300 mark in 2025.

The BCHL has become a destination for college-bound athletes for many reasons, including the pedigree of our coaches, the development resources available (on and off-ice), the style and schedule resemblance to the college game, the importance put on education, and the list goes on.

With the increase in attention and talent the BCHL has garnered, many young athletes may be asking how to get on a BCHL team's radar or how to know when they're ready to make the jump. *Continued on page 5*





LETTER FROM THE COMMISSIONER

BY STEVEN COCKER

All teams may vary slightly when it comes to what they look for in a recruit. Beyond the universally sought-after traits of skating ability, hockey sense and skill set, some teams may seek to build a younger roster, whereas others may favour size on the backend. I want to talk about the consistent factors and intangibles that EVERY team is looking for:

- Work Ethic: Beyond the 60 minutes of the game, are you spending time developing your game on the ice and away from the rink? This goes beyond the rink and gym and also into the classroom.

- A Good Teammate: What would your teammates say about you? Are you someone they can rely on in the game and away from it?

- A Good Person: For many teams, talent level doesn't matter if this box isn't ticked. How do you interact with others outside of your hockey circle? What would your teachers say about you?

- Impact and Production: Athletes tend to want to transition level by level as quickly as possible rather than being patient, developing, and eventually dominating level by level. In the BCHL, you'll see that the majority of athletes were dominant in at least one area of the game before making the transition to junior hockey.

In summary, if you listen to your coaches, remain patient, build positive habits, and listen to teachers and those wanting to help you, you'll find success in your journey.





LETTER FROM THE COMMISSIONER

BY TYLER WOWK

In 2016, we began with one “outlaw team” and 18 families willing to take a leap with Saints Pro Hockey Academy. Today, thanks to our visionary ownership’s belief and investment, we operate three independent hockey leagues with over 2,200 athletes across Western Canada, proving that independent hockey is here to stay. Partnerships with leagues like the HPL and BCHL have solidified our path as we expand, now including the Female Super League.

The success of HSL alumni in the JPHL and junior leagues across Canada is a testament to our franchise owners, coaches, development staff, parents, and, most importantly, the athletes. What we’ve built in the JPHL is something special. Every detail, from logistics and officiating to events, meals, and broadcasting, reflects the professionalism and dedication that fuel our league. In just two short seasons, the JPHL has become something exceptional, giving athletes and families experiences that go beyond the game.

For us, growth isn’t about numbers. It’s about the quality of people involved—our dedicated teams, coaches, and families who share our vision. We’re grateful to be on this journey together, and we’re excited for the future, aiming to continuously improve through new partnerships. Having been part of this journey since day one, it’s hard to put into perspective just how much we’ve evolved. When you’re on the inside, witnessing each step in real time, the magnitude of what we’ve built is almost surreal.

Many families tell me that, looking back, they realize how easy it was to get caught up in things that felt important at the time, only to see now that those concerns were small compared to the lasting memories they made. These moments go by fast, so soak them in and enjoy every game and experience.





LETTER FROM THE COMMISSIONER

BY HAYLEY RUNNALLS

We are thrilled to launch the inaugural season of the Female Super League (FSL), a significant step forward for youth female hockey! This season features two divisions –12U and 14U—comprising 14 teams from British Columbia to Manitoba. Thanks to the strong support we've received, we're excited to announce the addition of a 16U division for the 2025-26 season!

A key highlight of the FSL has been the introduction of progressive body checking at the 14U level, modeled after the PWHL. We've implemented this carefully, prioritizing player safety while enhancing skill development and elevating the competition in the female game.

The FSL's current success is largely due to our valuable partnerships with the JPHL and HSL. These collaborations allow us to share resources and create an exceptional experience for our players and families. Through these efforts, we can offer high-quality officiating, professional broadcasting, and valuable development opportunities for both our athletes and coaches.

In strengthening our partnership with the JPHL, we have implemented an Affiliation Policy for this season that allows current female players from the JPHL to participate in FSL games. This initiative aims to elevate FSL competition and create more exposure opportunities for female JPHL athletes.

As we embark on this exciting journey with our new league, I want to express my gratitude to everyone involved for their commitment to making the FSL a priority. Your support is vital as we work to elevate youth female hockey.



TIP TIME

WITH DAYLE WILCOX

In today's game, all of us teach individual skills to help develop players to increase their chances of making it to the next level. Skating, puck handling, shooting, passing, body contact and positioning. A simple but often overlooked skill is how important good sticks are.

One tool every player has is their stick. Some of the most important individual skills all involve sticks. If you cannot shoot, pass, or handle the puck well with your stick you will have a tough time moving up to higher levels. But there is much more to having a good stick. Coaches in games consistently mention sticks but teaching this skill is often overlooked during practices or skills sessions.

Offensive players need to have an active stick on forechecks to increase their chance of recovering pucks, placing sticks in good lanes to receive passes, guiding the opposing player with stick to proper angles, and protecting the puck with your stick are just a few. The defenseman hears this more often than forwards, but it is one of the most important skills a defenseman can have.

Stick on puck, sticks in lanes, stick gap control, finding shooting lanes with your stick, lifting sticks, blocking shots with sticks. And we often forget about goaltenders. A great active stick will help any goalie be more efficient. Look to instill good stick habits at younger ages and continue to reiterate the importance at older ages.



FROM THE BOOTH

BY PAISLEY MCGILL

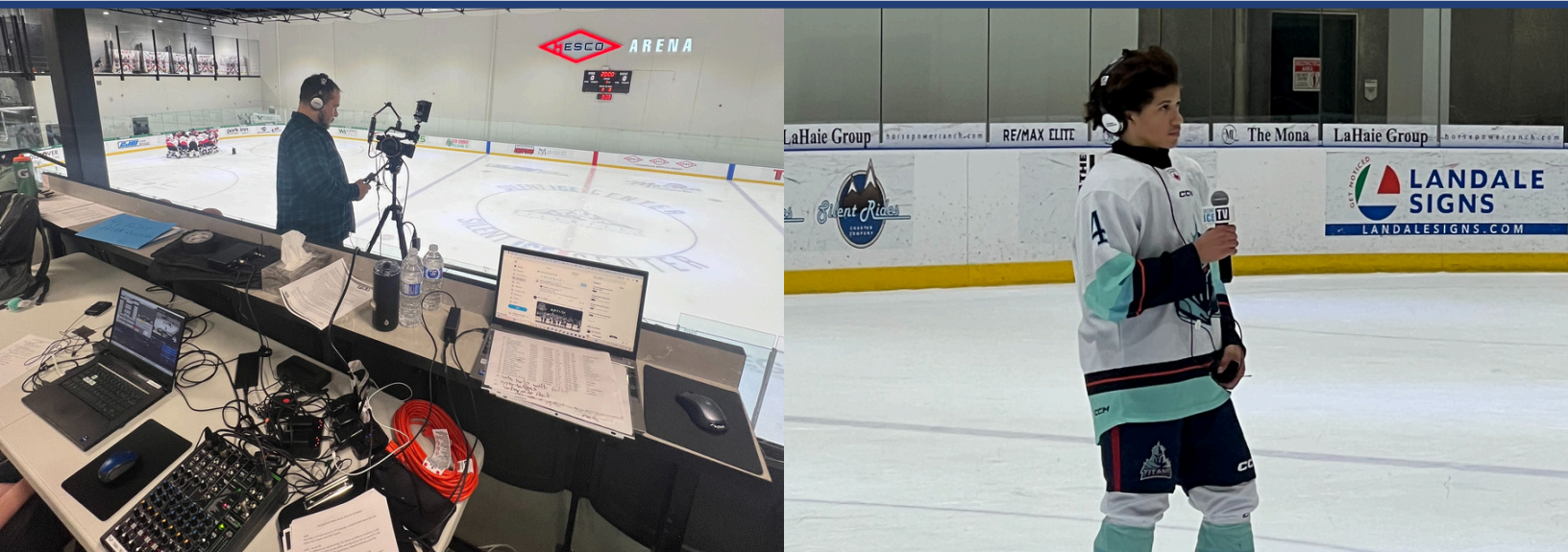
My name is Paisley McGill. I am a returning producer with 4Vengeance Media, the producers of JPHL hockey games. I owe my sense of responsibility and capability to my family. I was raised to care and show effort in everything, whether that was a sport, at school, or when dealing with people.

In this job, I knew I had to work hard being much younger than most of my coworkers. As JPHL players know, working hard gets you far. This year, my first weekend back, I was designated the Lead Producer of that showcase.

Being a producer is being a role model to new peers and someone to look to for help. You're in charge of equipment, streaming, graphics, as well as the score clock. That's just part of our contribution to the team.



JPHL Producer Paisley McGill



THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS!

