**PD Report 2021 – 2022**

An ALMOST Normal Season

This season almost seemed old hat again after the previous ‘covid’ year. Although we did have a shut down and limited tournaments throughout the year but it was great to see the teams in action again.

2021-22 Season for development also included some changes and new programming

* Following the roll out of the new guidelines from RO we had a Fun 1 (previously known as Bunnies) and 2 Fun 3 teams (AKA U10) – Unfortunately our registration numbers did not allow us to host a Fun 2 division.
  + RO is continuing to evolve and promote their roll out of this FUN category, we will need to get our registration numbers early and be organized accordingly for this fall
* The other change was not to have U12 as a provincial (competitive) age category, this being our largest age group for members for this past season allowed us to host 4 tiered teams in this age category - 2 x U12A, 1 x U12B and 1 x U12C Team
* Along with the direction of this **new** U12 category presented us with a new program which we able to start this season, these were U12 development nights, these skill and development nights were contracted out to Allie Marcotte to this age group.
* We also continued with our in-house Power Skating – Hosted by Karla George and Tom

Both of these programs did see the same ‘safety’ pause due to Covid and when we were able to return to the ice it was used for team preparation and the programming was not offered in the second half as in previous (normal) years.

Considering the previous year and the number of changes and challenges **this season was a great success.** However, a very compacted one;

The fall consisted of tryouts for competitive teams as well as team formations, this was a lot all at once, stating this only because RO would like to enforce all tryouts to happen in the fall again for all levels except AAA, all levels and age groups at once is a lot, not to mention the ice allocations are complicated in the fall, but that is another conversation.

Where we Grow from here?

All feedback and suggestions as always are considered and discussed, we are always looking to improve, I will add that due to some restrictions of our resources we cannot offer all options internally or as an option. Our size and ice allotment assigned to MDRA is always the challenge.

Here are some options that will be considered moving into 2022-23

* Grow our game and membership at the Fun levels (Fun 1,2,3), we need a successful recruiting year for these age groups
* Goalie Clinics – yes, we (I) have read and heard all the feedback – there is a draft plan in place and hopefully we can execute this, but this will be a focus to ADD as programming
  + We have budgeted to have some registration fees set aside to help aid in the overall cost of this to help get this off the ground with hopefully a manageable fee for the goalie families
* U12 Skills development
  + Conversations/suggestions have been made to expand/include U14 and possibly U16 into a rotation of these ‘skills’ weekly hour
  + Rotation of these weekly ‘skills’ may include our goalie clinics within this rotation?
* Power skating
  + I imagine that this program will continue .. ?
  + Does it continue in house? Or do we look at out sourcing it again?
  + The other option that has been asked to consider is to have assigned competitive power skating separated – not necessarily to divide by skill but to allow more players to be included as it does sell out very quickly and then there are not spots for all.
    - This could mean if we are able to get the extra ice and its smaller competitive groups that It would become a mandatory requirement for the competitive players but also will come at a higher cost.