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Ponoka Minor Hockey News



Skills Development

Ponoka Minor Hockey was recently awarded with a \$10,000 grant from Hockey Alberta and the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation to be used by our association to support the following areas; Intro to Hockey, Coaching Support, Female Hockey promotion, Inclusion of the Community, and Retention of Players, skill development, equipment, etc. Thanks to Peter Hillier (VP) for applying for this grant. We are pleased to announce that we have contracted Cross Ice Developments to offer our players from U7 to U18 & U18 Lakoka, two to four sessions each with a certified coach for power skating & skills development.

Filled Board Position

Thank you to Nicole Reynolds for stepping up to be our new Tournament / Discipline Director.

Ponoka Minor Hockey Fun at the ODR

Join us on February 20th from 1 till 3 on the ODR for public skating. The first 100 people to check in will receive a gift bag with items from Ponoka Minor Hockey and Vesta Energy. This fun afternoon was also provided to us by the grant received from Hockey Alberta and the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation.

Stick around to watch the Lacoka Alumni game at 3:45pm.



Supporting our Hometown Hero Maddison Pearman

Join us in celebrating one of Ponoka's own, Maddison Pearman, as she gets ready to compete at the 2022 Beijing Olympics.

Pearman will represent Canada in four Olympic speed skating events, including the 500 metres, 1000 metres, 1500 metres and the mass start race. Her first event is happening on Monday, February 7.

The Town of Ponoka is working in conjunction with a group of local community supporters to cheer Pearman on during the 2022 Olympics, and we're inviting all Ponoka citizens to join us.

You can show your support for Pearman by wearing red and white this Friday, February 4. The Town has also purchased 100

[#PearmanttoBeijing](#) window decals, which will be available for free to local citizens who would like to join in cheering on Pearman.

The window decals can be picked up, beginning on Friday, February 4, at the Arena Complex (4410 54 Street), the Ponoka Aquaplex (5315 46 Avenue; or the Town Office at the Ponoka Civic Centre (#200, 5604 50 Street).

The window decals were purchased by the Town from a group of community supporters that is selling the decals to help cover Pearman's expenses during her Olympic journey. For more information, the group can be contacted by phoning Sharon at 403-704-3117.

"On behalf of the Town of Ponoka, we would like to congratulate Pearman on this monumental achievement of making Canada's Speeding Skating Olympic team.

She is an amazing ambassador for our community and we look forward to cheering on Pearman in her Olympic journey," said Ponoka Mayor Kevin Ferguson.

Citizens can cheer on and watch Pearman compete in the following events, which will be streamed on CBC Sports (MST) on:

- Monday, February 7 at 1:30 a.m. in the Speed Skating Women's 1500 metres
- Sunday, February 13 at 6 a.m. in the Speed Skating Women's 500 metres
- Thursday, February 17 at 1:30 a.m. in the Speed Skating Women's 1000 metres final
- Saturday, February 19 at 12 a.m. in the Speed Skating Mass Start

For a complete streaming schedule, please visit
www.cbc.ca/sports/olympics/winter/streaming-schedule

Born and raised in Ponoka, Pearman grew up speed skating, starting at the age of five. Pearman comes from a family of skaters and her father is also a speed skating official (starter).

Pearman graduated from the University of Calgary with a Bachelor of Kinesiology and regularly trains and works part-time at the Calgary Olympic Oval.

For more information, please visit
<http://olympics.com/.../athlete-profile-n1038482-maddison...>

(Photo Credits: Dave Holland/Speed Skating Canada) [Maddison Pearman - Olympic Journey](#)

(Story credit to Ponoka News)



Black Elk Hockey Camp Returning to Ponoka!

We are excited to announce that the Black Elk Hockey Camp will be returning to Ponoka this summer!

A generous donation from Black Elk Hockey camp included tuition to the week-long camp awarded at each of our tournaments this year worth \$465.00. Please go ahead and register for camp at

<https://www.blackelkhockeycamp.com/copy-of-hockey-camps-clinics>



First Shift Starts February 8th!

The welcome event will be held on February 8th at the Stagecoach Saloon from 6 till 8 (2 shifts of 15 families).

Players will hit the ice on Feb 16th (every Wednesday) for 6 consecutive weeks at 6:15pm.

Lacoka Alumni Game

The Lacoka will be playing on February 20, at 3:45 pm. Please come out and support! There will be free admission and door prizes.

Thank you Officials

Our hockey officials are one of the most important components to being able to play our game. The Ponoka Minor Hockey Association would like to send out a thank you to all officials, new and experienced, for the contribution that they make to our game. Hockey family, please remember that without our officials, we cannot play. Our officials



are officiating for the love of the game, and they deserve our respect at all times, as well as our thanks. An official's job can be tiring and thankless at times when games aren't going how the team wants them to go. Sadly, our officials can experience abuse from player's family and their support which can lead to lower enrollment numbers. It is our job to lift our officials up, and refrain from abuse. It is up to the official to make the calls, on how they saw the game, from the ice. It is never up to the coaches, players, and people in the stands to dictate calls. We are definitely allowed to question a call, however, it must be done with dignity and respect. Never with malice.

Thank an official today, for helping our kids with their game.