

FREDERICTON YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20

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ANNUAL REPORTS

President – Heidi Boulter

As my first year as president concludes I have to say thank you for all the support and encouragement as I had big shoes to fill and expectations for making history as FYHA first female president. The amount of work that goes into running an association this size requires a large team of good-hearted volunteers. Our volunteers are the ones who give their time to make sure all areas of our association are covered and ensure that all members have an equal success for their hockey experience.

This year brought some changes and challenges. On February 1st Hockey New Brunswick changed the handshake rule from after the game to before the game. This brought much conversation our way. As a former hockey mom, I completely understood how the parents and coaches felt. As a board member for 8+ years and 4 of them being a coordinator, I know the struggle and discipline issues we faced, so I supported HNB decision on this. Secondly, and the most unusual was on March 12th the early termination of our 2019-2020 season due to the COVID -19. It was new territory for me, FYHA, HNB and even Hockey Canada. I was heart broken for all the players, parents and coaches. For teams that made playoffs, zones, provincials. Players and parents looking forward to FYHA championship day and year end parties. I felt the heartache of graduating players that this would be their last year as a minor hockey player. We didn't get the season ending we wanted and that hurt, I do feel however that Hockey Canada acted fast and made the right decision to help flatten the curve.

Atom Pathway

We adapted this new program in the fall which I believe was successful and ran smoothly. The biggest change that would have been noticed was the longer tryout process.

- Must have a minimum of four practices/skill sessions prior to formal evaluations starting.
- Must have a minimum of three formal tryout/evaluation sessions; recommended – one skills session, one small-area games session, one game.

Along with the extra evaluation sessions it also required the drafted teams to have 4 weeks of training before regular season started.

The Atom Pathway is a progressive, learn-to-play teaching curriculum. This pathway is an important component in the transition from the Novice Pathway and serves as preparation into the Peewee Pathway. The Atom Pathway consists of four phases of instruction, designed for players graduating from Novice hockey and for entry-level hockey players who may start playing hockey at this age level. The Atom Pathway curriculum **introduces, develops and refines** the skills of skating, passing, puck control and shooting in a progressive, step-by-step manner. This is to be viewed as an opportunity for young players to develop and refine fundamental movement skills (skating, turning, acceleration), manipulation skills (shooting, puck control, passing) and overall motor skills (balance, coordination, agility) in a fun and safe environment, promoting skill development through self-confidence. The main goal of the Atom Pathway is to continue to have fun while developing skills. When players continue a positive note, they really enjoy the game and will go on to have fun playing hockey for many years

Development Session

Many thanks to all the great volunteers that make this a success. I think that development is not just a weekend but a progression throughout the hockey year. This season I was able to set up some free on ice sessions, 2 on ice sessions were run in February, one by Kevin Pottle and some players of the Fredericton Red Wings and the other by Mark Sommerville. Mark also ran 4 March break on ice sessions for Novice age through to Bantam. Big thank you to Mark for coaching these sessions.

I also had the privilege of teaming up with Sarah Hilworth, the head coach of the UNB Women's Hockey team. Sarah invited our female players to attend a couple on ice session with her team. I am looking forward to working more with Sarah in the upcoming seasons.

Fundraising

This season we introduced the FYHA Big Score online 50/50 fundraiser. For our first season of trying this I think it was successful but could always use some work. We will work at marketing this better and notify the members of the opportunity to play and draws. These types of fundraising help us keep the cost down as much as possible and help us purchase some new equipment that come up. This year with the money we were able to purchase some goalie gear for the Novice age group.

Challenges and Recommendations

Like so many other seasons we faced shortness of ice times, more specifically for some divisions prime time ice (Monday – Thursday 4:30 and on) along with weekend ice. With so many City special events and a couple divisions having 10 Rec teams it all played a part. I know some of the coordinators had a tough time making it all work and I thank you for all your hard work. A big shout out to Lesly Paul for the amazing effort she put into making sure we got as much ice as we could and gave ice back when it wasn't being use so we were not charged. Moving forward I think we will always see struggles with ice times and the amount of ice as more and more events are going to take place in our City but I think with keeping a good communication and relationship with the City and working with them directly that all helps.

Another ongoing concern is the number of referees. Each year we lose some of the younger refs as they are graduating high school and moving onto the next chapter their lives. We will continue to work with the FMHOA in their efforts to recruit refs and develop the returning.

The last challenge we faced was the competitive draft process. While I feel the process, has been greatly improved over the years and the use of team genius works well there is always things to improve and tweak. This season we decided to go with all independent evaluators in our hunt to make the evaluation process as fair as possible. As well as it worked in some divisions, others it did not. Some divisions had more players trying out for one position then another which made us have to adjust the draft process on the fly to make sure each team had the correct ideal amount of position players (9 forwards and 6 Defence plus 2 goalies). This will be something we work on over the summer so that it will become a constant process year after year.

Again, I would like to thank my entire Board for all their hard work and dedication during this season and supporting me in this new role. I look forward to an even better 2020/2021 season.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Boulter
President

General Manager – John O’Toole

The 2019/20 season kicked off on a high note when FYHA hosted Rogers Hometown Hockey at the Grant Harvey Centre (October 26 & 27). This event was well received by the Fredericton hockey community and it generated a buzz and excitement for the season to begin. To top the event off, Scotiabank generously donated \$10,000 to FYHA.

The 2019/20 season also ended on a low note as it was cut short due to the COVID19 pandemic. The final 3 weeks of the season were cancelled, and teams were unable to complete their playoffs, compete in Provincials and tournaments/jamborees and have their wrap up parties. A disappointing end to the season for everyone.

The 2019/20 season was challenging - there were many highs and lows. However, with the strong leadership of Heidi Boulter and the hard work and commitment of the Board members we were able to meet the challenges presented. It was a pleasure working with Heidi and the Board.

Registration

Registration for the 2019/20 season featured both an on-line and in-person option. A review of the table below will show that there was a slight decrease in our membership over the previous season.

<u>Division</u>	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Initiation	193	172	187	210
Novice	239	231	218	201
Atom	216	252	244	243
Peewee	188	176	188	210
Bantam	167	140	168	148
Midget	178	171	171	159
Juvenile	0	0	20	17
TOTAL	1178	1152	1196	1188

Once again, in order to complete the registration process, all members were required to obtain a City of Fredericton recreation card number. Having City staff on site to distribute these numbers at the in-person registration sessions proved to be very beneficial. I would like to thank everyone for their assistance in complying with this requirement.

NHL/NHLPA First Shift

The NHL/NHLPA became the new sponsors of the First Shift program in 2019. FYHA hosted two sessions, both taking place in November/December, with 90 “new to hockey” children ages 6-10 participating. Mark MacFadzen and Joe MacDonald, with their group of committed coaches, over saw the delivery of this very popular program. I would like to thank all the coaches for their commitment to this program as well as Bauer, Hockey Canada, Hockey New Brunswick and the City of Fredericton.

FYHA provides the First Shift participants with an opportunity to continue enjoying their hockey experience by allowing them to transition onto an FYHA team for the remainder of the season (starting in January) at no charge. This is typically a very popular option – we had 73 participants sign up this year (35 to TimBit teams, 30 to Novice teams and 8 to Atom teams).

44th Annual Nashwaaksis Lions Capital Invitational Tournament

The Atom/PeeWee portion of the Capital Invitational tournament took place February 21 – 23 and featured 56 teams in 4 divisions. A total of 96 games were played. The Bantam/Midget portion took place the following weekend (February 28 – March 1) and featured 39 teams in 3 divisions consisting of 68 games. A total of 70 teams travelled into Fredericton to participate in the tournament.

The Nashwaaksis Lions Club returned as the title sponsor of the 44th Capital Invitational. Special thanks to our returning sponsors including the Nashwaaksis Lions Club, Fredericton Sports Investment, St Mary's Entertainment, Papa John's Pizza and Coastal Graphics. We were very pleased to welcome a new sponsor this year - Northside Dental Clinic.

Special thanks to Matt Forster and Eric Drummie, along with all members of the Fredericton Minor Hockey Officials Association, who did an outstanding job during the tournament. It is not easy to find officials to work 164 games over a short period of time, but Matt and Eric did.

The 44th annual Nashwaaksis Lions Capital Invitational Tournament was a financial success with over \$34,000 being raised. Thank you to all those that participated in the tournament and a special thank you is extended to all the volunteers who helped make this event a reality.

TimBit/Novice Program

A concerted effort was made to enhance the delivery of our TimBit and Novice programs this year by purchasing much needed equipment. We were very fortunate to secure a \$5000 contribution from Cox & Palmer – these funds were used to purchase one set of rink dividers and 2 mini nets. This set of dividers are located at the York arena and they proudly display the Cox & Palmer logo. In addition, we also purchased an additional set of rink dividers, 10 mini nets, light weight pucks and 10 sets of goalie gear.

We now have a set of rink dividers and 4 mini nets located at all Fredericton ice surfaces except the LBR.

Fundraising and Sponsorship

In addition to the support received from Scotiabank and Cox & Palmer, FYHA would like to acknowledge the contributions from the businesses listed below:

- St. Mary's Entertainment Centre completed the third year of their sponsorship of the PeeWee Rec Division with the purchase of 2 sets of jerseys – a \$3000 contribution.
- Stanley Mutual Insurance donated \$2500 for the purchase of a new set of jerseys for the Midget Rec Division.
- Nashwaaksis Lions Club renewed sponsorship of the Atom Comp Lions donating \$2500 for a set of jerseys.
- Tim Hortons provided 6 sets of jerseys for the TimBit division.
- Wendy's Restaurants Fredericton contributed \$2000 towards the purchase of Novice jerseys.
- McDonalds Atomic program supplied 10 sets of jerseys to the Atom Rec Division.

FYHA is extremely fortunate to have the support of these, and many more, businesses in the Fredericton area. Efforts to establish new partnerships will be continued.

In summary, the season was indeed an interesting one. Thank you to President Heidi Boulter and each Board member for their support. It was a pleasure working with each of you.

Respectfully submitted,

John O'Toole
General Manager



Director of Operations – Leslie Paul

What an unexpected and abrupt end to the season!

As this was my first year as Director of Operations, I joined the Board not quite knowing what to expect. I want to thank Mark Somerville for his guidance, encouragement & support, especially at the start of the season. It was very helpful to see what he had done over the previous two seasons and to get his feedback on the schedule I created at the start of the season. Also, my thanks to John O'Toole and Heidi for answering all of my questions throughout the season, and to John Burns for always being available and having patience as I was figuring things out, and for tolerating my 'OCD' for the details.

The Division Coordinators were all great to work with and quick to respond when dealing with changes and picking up the extra available ice times. They have a lot to deal with within their own divisions, so having them respond to my emails right away helped make things run very smoothly.

I am only aware of a couple of double bookings and scheduled ice that went unused, and in each of those circumstances it was either an oversight or a miscommunication about who was scheduled for the ice. Unfortunately, with so many divisions, and so many teams in each division, that is bound to happen occasionally. But everyone involved worked together to try to correct the errors.

Although I do understand that the City is essentially running a business in ice rentals, having to give back ice we aren't able to use at least 7 days ahead took some getting used to. Getting a good system into place to schedule extra ice and return unused ice took a few weeks, but it became easier as the season went on.

There were a few challenges early in the season. Certainly, having more teams than originally anticipated in one of the divisions created some issues with weekday ice up until the Christmas Break. After the Christmas break, we were able to use the ice that had been allotted to the First Shift program, since FYHA wasn't awarded any sessions in the second half of the season for the division that was short on weekday ice. Going forward, I hope we will be able to pick up enough weekday ice times to accommodate all the teams in each division.

Starting in January the City switched to a new scheduling system called Amelia. On the front end, nothing changed for us regarding scheduling. On the back end (billing), it could become complicated or difficult to track the correct usage if the monthly bill is finalized before all ice times are verified, so it is important to make sure we continue to verify the ice times before the City finalizes the monthly and special-events invoices.

Overall, I have found the challenging work of Director of Operations quite rewarding, in large part due to the generous help and co-operation I received from other people involved in the operations. I'm looking forward to an even better year in the 2020-2021 season.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Paul,
Director of Operations

Director of Coaching – Mark Somerville

Thank you

I would like to thank all of our volunteers for putting in SO much effort and time. Board members, Coaches, Assistant Coaches, On-Ice Helpers, Managers, parents/guardians who helped out in various settings, and officials who put in long hours – you are the reason why FYHA is successful. Specifically, I want to thank Heidi Boulter, our President for all the help and support over this season. Heidi provided a great sounding board during instances needing clarity or guidance.

A special thank you goes out to Hockey New Brunswick (Matt Vautour, Mike Gillingham, Todd and Eric Pye), St. Thomas University (Mike Eagles, Peter Murphy and the STU Women's team), University of New Brunswick (Gardner MacDougall and his crew), and the Fredericton Red Wings Junior A club (Kevin Pottle) for volunteering and supplementing our skill development program.

Strengths

This year was my first as Director of Coaching, as I have been the Director of Operations for the past two years. It was an interesting transition because the roles are extremely different. I found that I was able to spend more time doing the one thing that I enjoy the most – teaching hockey. Typically, I coach U18 aged youth, but this year I was able to follow Hockey Canada's guidelines to produce various skills sessions for the younger demographic. These skill sessions made me realize how exciting it is to teach at the younger age levels. This led to getting various FYHA coaches involved with the skill sessions – including community resources from Hockey New Brunswick, St. Thomas University, University of New Brunswick, and the Fredericton Red Wings Junior A club. It is clear that our community is passionate about hockey and willing to assist our children and youth in skill acquisition.

Another strength would be the fantastic group of coaches that we had on board this year. There are many dedicated coaches in our association who put the children and youth's needs in the forefront. We need to continue getting people like this in our association.

Last strength I would like to bring up would be the coach interviews that we initiated prior to the season starting. It was great putting faces to names and getting to know each individual coach. This process really helped us select coaches based on qualification, experience, knowledge, and flexibility.

Challenges

The most challenging part of this position this year would be on the performance management side. At times there would be complaints brought to our attention that were unfounded because the context of the situation was not understood by all parties – some of these could have been avoided by speaking with the other party to figure out a solution rather than trying to get someone in trouble.

On the other hand, there were a few situations that warranted decisions from the discipline committee; these decisions are always difficult to make because I choose to believe that everyone is inherently well intentioned. The difficult part is navigating opinions to come to a solution.

Fair play issues: we did have a couple issues brought to my attention regarding fair play. Some of these issues were resolved by having a conversation with a coach to understand their side of the situation. In one instance specifically, we problem solved a situation that helped the coach/parents communicate more effectively and proved to be helpful for having all children with fair ice time.

Coach Selection

This year we conducted interviews for all competitive coaching applications. This process was very time

consuming but proved to be beneficial as I was able to put faces to names and express personally that I am available if anyone needs support. We had the selection committee go over applications, interview questions, and sit in on a few interviews. Once the interview process was completed a decision was made by the selection committee. I think this process should be used again next year – it proved to be very important for feedback and identifying potential volunteers to assist with development sessions.

Coach Certification

Hockey Canada requires coaches to have the necessary coach training for the age group and skill level that the prospective coach would be working with. Most of our returning coaches were able to keep up with their certifications (or asked about exploring higher certifications) which was amazing. We did have a few coaches who did not receive certification until the very last minute. Hopefully, next season we can have mandatory courses for new coaches. The issue is we need more coaches than what we currently have.

Development Sessions

This year I was able to facilitate skill development sessions with various age groups. These sessions mostly consisted of skating skills – edge work, power movements, stride, and pushing limits of ability in a fun way to encourage skill development. The feedback from parents was that these sessions was all positive and the feedback from the players attending proved to me that these sessions are useful. Not to mention it was a fun experience for myself.

This year we had many coaches assist with various development sessions which proved to be successful. We also had more involvement this year from our community partners (Hockey New Brunswick, St. Thomas University, University of New Brunswick, and Fredericton Red Wings). Each of the sessions ran by a professional from our community were well planned and executed.

Closing

When it comes to this specific position and the actual components of it, I had a great season. My favourite part of the year would be facilitating development sessions (along with coaching with the Midget AA group). Dealing with some performance management issues tended to be a bit much at times this season. Hoping that next season we can tighten up on certain aspects of performance management and programming.

Yours in Hockey,

Mark Somerville
Director of Coaching



Director of Female Development – Kelsey Pye

Thank you to everyone for your support this season. While none of us could have predicted how the season would end, the health and safety of our players is paramount, and we look forward to starting fresh next year.

Female registrations were down from 103 last year to 73 this year. This can be attributed to players aging out, as well as the increased registration of the Central Female Hockey Association.

This season the FYHA participated in a number of female-only player development sessions with Hockey New Brunswick and the University of New Brunswick. Participation in all sessions was strong and we see the interest in holding additional sessions in the future. The UNB Reds women's team also invited all FYHA players to attend its You Can Play game in early February, free of charge; many players of all ages and genders were in the stands wearing their FYHA jerseys.

In December, Hockey New Brunswick held female development sessions in conjunction with the Hockey Canada national women's team Rivalry Series. This included a hot-stove session with Mel Davidson, Cassie Campbell-Pascall and Danielle Goyette ahead of the game against Team USA. Several FYHA players and family members attended the sessions and game and found it to be a positive experience.

Providing opportunities for youth such as the ones above is important and we're fortunate to live in such an involved hockey community. We are always seeking ways to help our players grow on and off the ice. We look forward to growing and enhancing these opportunities in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelsey Pye
Director of Female Development

Director of Property and Equipment – Darren Goodine

As Director of Property and Equipment, I would like to thank our existing sponsors and welcome Stanley Mutual Insurance and UCT as new sponsors to our Midget division this past season.

Expenses: 2 sets of rink dividers and 12 mini nets from Cover Tech - \$15,134.00

purchase of jerseys from Coastal Graphics - \$12,615.80

pucks, hockey bags, goalie stick, cones, helmet, elbow pads and
10 sets of Novice Goalie gear from MacTavish's - \$5,907.44

This will be my final season serving as Director of Equipment, the past 3 seasons have been very rewarding and want to thank the FYHA Board for the opportunity to serve. I stand by this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Darren Goodine
Director of Property and Equipment



TimBit/Initiation Division Director – Alex Vanderlaan

The Timbits season generally was a success in my first year as coordinator. It was a learning process for myself, especially at the start, but everything appeared to run smoothly as the season got properly underway. We had very few problems with regard to getting ice time and having York for most of our weekend ice times worked well as it the rink that is seemingly the least affected by special events. I would like to thank Leslie for a great job all year in the Director of Ops position.

The only real issue we ran into was the large number of kids in the division. By the end of the year we had over 200 kids participating in the Timbits division, after adding the players transitioning from First Shift. These were divided into five practice groups (3 Minor, 2 Major) with three teams each. One additional Minor group was created compared to last year. At the start of the season, each team has approximately 10-12 players per team. However, with more than 30 players coming from first shift, teams became overloaded. This meant that players were getting less opportunity to be on the ice. There was an added challenge of finding enough jerseys for the new players.

Teams at the start of next season should be comprised of 8-10 players, with an increased number of total teams. This may create new challenges but it's important that the players get opportunities to be on the ice and give coaches better opportunities to work with each player individually.

The Timbits Jamboree went well despite losing an entire day due to weather. All teams were able to play at minimum 2 games. We had 2 teams participate from outside the association, the CFHA Storm and Woodstock. Big thanks to Melissa for organizing everything!

I want to thank the coaches this year for the efforts and time dedicated to being on the ice with the players. We had a great group of coaches this season in Timbits, and for the most part had very few issues. I also want to thank John O'Toole for his help this season as I transitioned into the role of Timbits Coordinator.

Respectfully submitted,

Alex Vanderlaan
TimBit/Initiation Division Director

Novice Division Director – Annalee Brewer

This was FYHA's second year following Hockey Canada and HNB's Novice Division guidelines. Novice Minor division practiced and played on half ice surface, while Novice Major practiced on half ice for full season but moved into full ice games mid January.

The Goalie clinics continued this season, they ran bi-weekly on Mondays at the WOR. It gave great opportunity to the little goalies to get some one on one and small group specialized training. On average there were approximately 12-20 little goalies at each clinic. These are very important sessions to develop new goalies.

Original registration numbers in September were 164 with an additional 30 First Shift players joining teams after the Christmas break. We had 14 teams - 7 minor and 7 major. There were close to 60 special requests made after the original teams were posted on the website.

The division was very fortunate to have 48 dedicated Coaches, Assistant coaches and On-ice volunteers who spent many hours working with the kids. There were always a lot of happy faces when I visited the various practices and games. That being said, it would only be an option, to have more (smaller) teams, as has been suggested, if more parents were willing and available to volunteer.

We were able to pick up a lot of ice time this year, the monthly ice time break down is as follows:

	Scheduled	Extra	
Oct	19	2	
Nov	46	10	
Dec	42	4	
Jan	50	8	
Feb	45	9	
March	20	3	
	<hr/>		
	222	36	258

Each Minor team played each other minor time for a total of 4 round robins.

Each Major team played each other major team for a total of 3 round robins.

We were able to arrange for a number of the Major teams to play with Oromocto teams as they also had an uneven number of teams.

Concerns

Lack of assistance from non-coaching, non-managing parents in the stands when it came time to running the clock at games. Many times, the coach were setting the clock then jumping on the ice or bench with the kids.

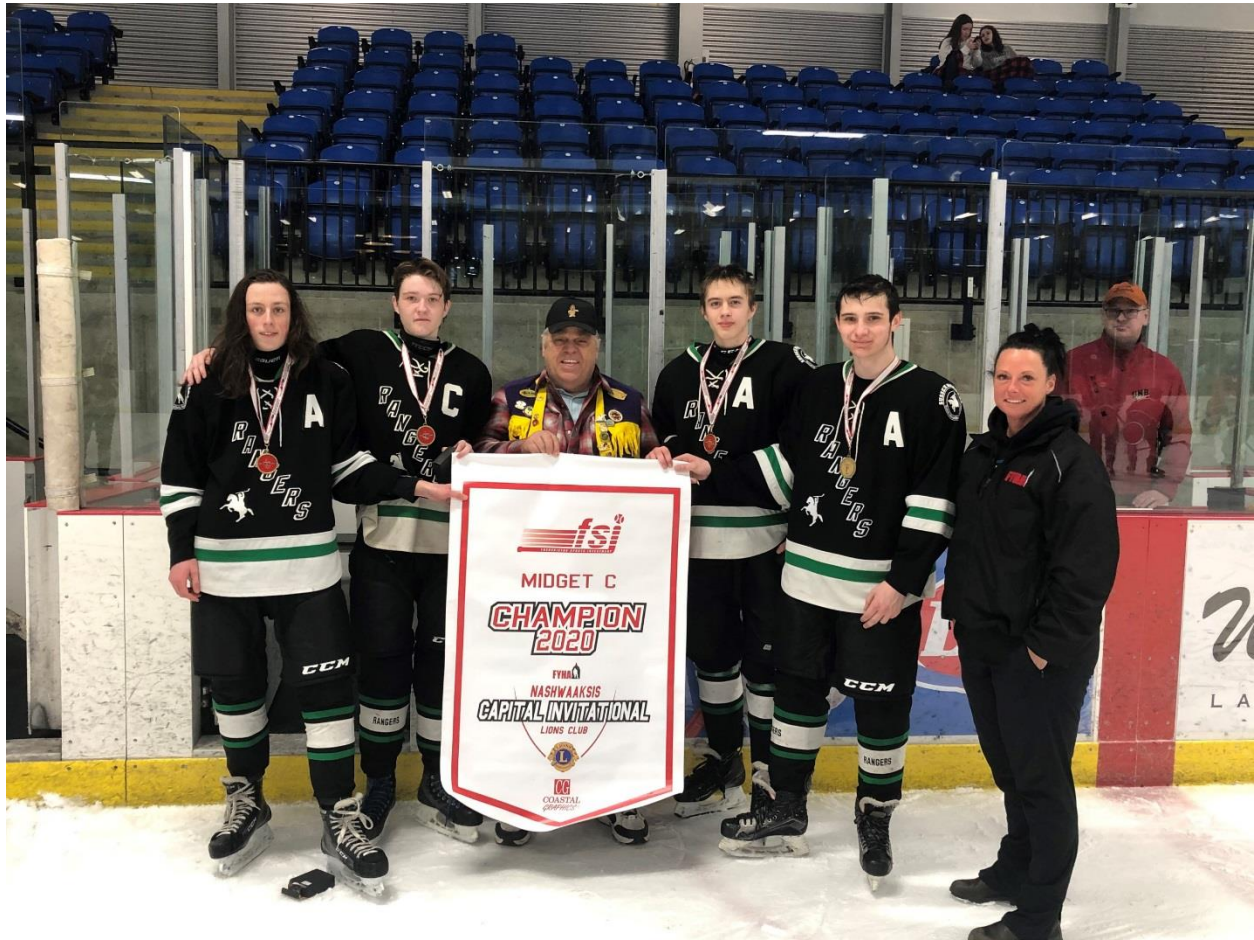
Recommendations

I would recommend that going forward, the coordinator reach out to parents/guardians before creating teams to see what special requests there are. Special requests take time, but they are less disruptive to make before teams are drafted.

In conclusion, I will not be re-offering as Novice Coordinator and encourage other parents to consider volunteering for this role. My child is 'graduating' FYHA's Midget level and it is time for me to step away as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Annalee Brewer
Novice Division Director



Atom Division Director – Dave Nicolle

This year I took over with approximately 7 weeks remaining in the season. There was 10 teams and 164 players. We had a number of people step up to do the coaching and managing of the teams which was great when you are a 10 team league volunteers can be hard to find. Leslie Paul did a great job dealing with the city and easy communications with the coordinators. Mark Sommerville held some skills and drills sessions that were well received and was great for the kids to hear a different voice on the ice. Unfortunately, the season ended abruptly, but was the right decision.

There were some issues regarding rankings of players using the team genius app and not all kids even had rankings. This needs to be revised moving into next year to eliminate some of the issues that arose as a result. Every player needs a score and as a coach also I feel there needs to be less categories to rank kids on. To take it one step further no coach should rank their own age group. Coaches need to work together to make the rankings the most accurate possible.

There were some gaps between teams in league play. There were many factors that played into this, but I feel that with 10 teams there is a huge opportunity to tier players making 2 levels. You will see better progression in all players as kids will be challenged in the top tier and the other tier kids will get more touches with the puck. In my opinion, it is a win-win all around. Your team's numbers wouldn't change so it would really only take a few extra id sessions to ensure the kids are divided up appropriately.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Nicolle
Atom Division Director



PeeWee Division Director – Melissa Lockhart

I accepted the PeeWee Division Coordinator position in early February for the remainder of the season. I would like to say thank you to Krista Colford for her help with the transition, and for all the hard work she put in from the beginning of the season. Also, to all volunteers, coaches, parents, managers, players. Your dedication is what makes each seasons success.

There were 10 teams in the PeeWee Rec division, and 3 teams in the PeeWee Comp division. With 10 teams at the Rec level, this turned out to be a bit of a challenge to fill goalie positions for all teams. Hopefully, in the upcoming years we will see that we have more goalies.

In my time as Coordinator, the division seemed to run fairly smoothly. A few concerns were:

- The change in the post-game handshake.
- There was some confusion with the PeeWee Comp scheduling, particularly for ice times during Special Events.
- Officials calls, or lack of. Some games saw increased un-sportsman like behavior.

We worked thru these issues the best we could.

Sadly, the season ended abruptly in mid-March, with the health pandemic of COVID-19. The cancellation of the remainder of the season was a huge disappointment for our players, parents, and Coaches.

I would also like to thank my fellow FYHA Board members for lending their support and expertise to me. Be Healthy & Safe!

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Lockhart
PeeWee Division Director



Bantam Division Director – Kristy Cairns

I would like to start by saying, thank you to all the head coaches, assistant coaches and managers for volunteering this season. Also, to the parents and players for their commitment and hard work, that made this a really great season.

The evaluations this season for both Competitive and Recreational teams were conducted by coaches outside of the Bantam division. I feel this went very well and hopefully we can build on this in the coming years. There were some issues with the Recreational evaluations, as players were not playing to their ability and therefore the draft rankings were not accurate, making the teams slightly unbalanced. Overall, both Competitive and Recreational drafts went quite well, resulting in two (2) Competitive and six (6) Recreational teams.

Competitive Teams

The District 3 Bantam Competitive division consisted of 4 teams. Two being FYHA teams, the Nashwaaksis Lions Club and Swifty's Capitals with thirty (34) players and four (4) goalies on their rosters.

The Lions finished 2nd in District 3 regular season play, earning them a spot in "AA" provincials and the Swifty's finished 3rd earning them a spot in "A" provincials. Unfortunately, due to the season being cancelled, neither team got to go to Provincials. District 3 playoffs did not get to finish due to the remainder of the season being cancelled.

Recreational Teams

The Recreational division consisted of six (6) teams, with a total of ninety-one (91) players and eight (8) goalies. Each team played thirty-three (33) games throughout the regular season. Only two (2) games for the entire season were cancelled due to snowstorms. Each team was scheduled for eleven (11) practices. One (1) practice was cancelled due to a snowstorm and two (2) practices were cancelled due to a power outage. This kept with the FYHA ratio of 3:1. This does not include exhibition games or tournaments.

The FYHA Christmas tournament went really well in the Bantam division. With six (6) teams, the format for the tournament was a crossover. The Bantam Canadiens won the tournament, which allowed them to move on to districts, where they faced York West Hawks in a best of three (3) for a chance to move on to C-zones. The Canadiens defeated the York West Hawks 2-0. Due to the season being cancelled, the Canadiens did not get to play in the C-zones for a chance at Provincials.

The round robin crossover for the Year end tournament was to begin on March 14th. The last regular season game was played on March 12th. However, due to the cancellation of the remainder of the season on March 12, the year end tournament did not take place.

In Conclusion

I appreciated the opportunity to be the Bantam Division Coordinator this past season. Thank you to everyone for their patience and understanding when things needed to be changed. Thank you for the support of the Board and also, Leslie Paul, Director of Operations in all her hard work to ensure ice was available and accurate, this allowed for minimal changes throughout the season.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy Cairns
Bantam Division Director

Midget Division Director – Nancy Wilson

I would like to thank all volunteers, coaches, assistant coaches, managers and parents for a great season. This season we had one AA competitive team and eight recreational teams.

Recreational Division

This year we had eight recreational teams. There were 114 Players and 10 Goalies in the league for 8 teams with 14 to 16 players on each team. Each team played 29-30 regular season games. This is on par with last year's numbers. Each team also participated in the Christmas tournament which provided another minimum of 6 games.

All teams were given several opportunities for extra ice times that became available throughout the season which they could use for practice or exhibition games with outside teams. As well, Kirk Hannah and Mark McFadzen held development ice times for all midget players who wanted to participate.

This season, we kept all game scores online as well as regular stats. This open access to information seemed to be appreciated by players, coaches and parents.

FYHA Tournament Results:

Christmas Tournament Results

- 1 – Sabres
- 2 – Ramada Flyers
- 3 – UTC Blues
- 4 – Kings

Year-End Results

- 1 – William's Seafood Storm
- 2 – Stanley Mutual Whalers
- 3 – UTC Blues
- 4 – Ramada Flyers

The FYHA Christmas tournament witnessed the Sabres beating out the Flyers. This led to the Sabres playing a best of three games series against a strong Grand Lake team for a chance at the C-Zones and a chance to play at provincials. Unfortunately, after two well played games they lost in Zones 2-0

Unfortunately, there were no year-end playoffs. The above Year-End results were the standings as of March 12 when the season was cut short.

Competitive Division

The Nashwaaksis Lions Club Midget AA Lions competitive team had a successful year.

Graduating Players

We had 48 'graduating' players this year and celebrated this with our Graduate Recognition celebration will be held at a later date.

Challenges

We lost a lot of ice during the weekends for Special Events. The biggest challenge was making sure all players were on the ice at least once during the week. With not enough weeknight ice times, some teams would not be on the ice for a week at a time.

My recommendation

The ice times should be allocated fairly between Recreation and Competitive teams. The midget competitive team should not have two prime time weekday ice times for practices every week. **As per the operations manual, all competitive teams should have one 6:00 am and one weeknight ice time practice.** This will allow for an extra weeknight ice time to be distributed fairly among the recreational divisions. Also, the allocation of ice time should be at the discretion of the Division Director not other parties with a direct conflict.

Pros

We had a great group of coaches and there were no major issues with either coaches or players.

In conclusion, this is my last season as a coordinator with FYHA. Thank you to John O’Toole, Annalee Brewer and the board for all your help over the years.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Wilson
Midget Division Director



Director of Special Events – Melissa Lockhart

Tournament Dates:

Timbit Division Classic Feb. 7-9, 2020

44th Annual Capital Invitational: Atom/PeeWee February 21-23rd, 2020

Bantam/Midget February 28 - March 1, 2020

Novice Division jamboree March 13-15, 2020 - cancelled due to COVID-19. We had 56 teams registered.

44th Annual Nashwaaksis Lions Capital Invitational results:

Atom C	Kent Sud Ice Breakers
Atom A	KV Sabres
PeeWee C	Pecheur Lameque Shippagan
PeeWee A	Oromocto Eagles
Bantam C	FYHA Scotiabank Devils
Bantam A	Petitcodiac/Salisbury Flyers
Midget C	Sussex Rangers

Tournament Details

The 5th Annual Mitch Clarke Timbit Classic was held at Willie O'Ree Center. Due to weather, Friday's games were cancelled. The Opening Ceremonies were rescheduled and held Saturday morning at 10am. We celebrated with local dignitaries, BFN, FYHA, the Clarke family, and our Timbit families.

The Wendy's Novice Jamboree was unfortunately cancelled due to COVID-19 health pandemic. We did have 56 teams registered to participate, so the cancellation was a huge disappointment for many kids & hockey families. Many away teams have already expressed interest for next year's Jamboree.

44th Annual Capital Invitational was hosted over 2 weekends, and they were well received. The great number of volunteers made both weekends to be very successful.

I would like to express my appreciation to the many volunteers who helped us to make these events so victorious.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Lockhart
Director of Special Events

Director of Officials – Matt Forster

During the 2018-19 hockey season there were 71 officials registered with the Fredericton Minor Hockey Officials Association. We had 13 new officials and 5 officials transfer into the association this season.

Eighty-six officials worked games this season with games being worked for the FYHA, EDZA West, Stanley, Keswick, York North, Grand Lake, Doaktown and Senior Ladies. FHMOA officials worked 1389 games this season and is 55 less than last season. The total of games worked for the FYHA were 1071 down 18 games from the previous season. The minor hockey division that saw the largest drop in the number of games was Midget C.

Thank you to the FYHA for the support with official's development. We were able to provide three on ice development sessions with ice provided by the FYHA. Nine of these officials attended official's camps with financial support provided by the FYHA.

The FMHOA continued our support of the Brendon Oreto Foundation with officiating games in fall hockey schools and donating \$600 to the foundation.

Officials Accomplishments

- Josh Jackson and Jonathan Morrison attended NBHOA level 3 clinic.
- Dawson Wood was selected to work the Atlantic Challenge Cup.
- Joel King, Thomas Ripley, Adam Prosser and Dawson Wood attended Hockey Canada level 4 clinic.
- Matt Hanson, Chris Drummie, Jack Nason, Joel King, Thomas Ripley and Dawson Wood were selected for the NBHOA program of excellence.
- Jack Nason, Chris Drummie, Matt Hanson and Joel King were selected to work the Monctonian Midget tournament.
- Matt Hanson, Chris Drummie and Dawson Wood were selected to work the Bantam Major AAA provincials.
- Wyatt Ashworth, Brook Eagles, Brett Eagles, Connor Coelho, Brendan Quinlan, MacKenzie Quinlan, Kody Miller and Jack Nason were selected to work the female Bantam AAA provincials.
- Connor Coelho, Brett Eagles, Brook Eagles, Chris Drummie, Matt Hanson, Jack Nason, Thomas Ripley and Dawson Wood were selected to work the High School Hockey AAA provincials.
- Brett Eagles, Brook Eagles, Chris Drummie, Matt Hanson, Joel King were selected to work the Pee Wee B provincials.

Recommendation to improve the FMHOA

- Recruit a Director of Supervision
 - Increase the number of supervisions officials receive by recruiting more supervisors to complete them.
 - Engage senior officials' group to help find ways to help with officials' development
- Recruit an Assignor for Competitive and Recreation Hockey
- Reintroduce monthly rule quizzes for officials
- Increase the game fees for officials for novice, atom and pee wee.

Recommendations for FYHA

- Reduce the amount of week-day games before 5:00 pm as it is a challenge to get officials to work those games.

- Make sure that schedule games are uploaded in plenty of time to allow time for officials to be assigned. This season this was an issue with Atom Rec and Novice putting games up 24 hours before. The games should be on the website no later than 72 hours in advance. By doing this it will provide all officials with the same experience when it comes to receiving assignments.
- For the FYHA to look at ways to help reduce level of abuse officials receive from spectators and coaches.
- When scheduling ice times to try to put atom and pee wee games together or bantam and midget games together to allow for officials to be able to work doubles together.

Respectfully submitted by

Matthew Forster

Matthew Forster
President/ Referee in Chief FMHOA



Director of Discipline – Jessica Jones

The 2019/ 2020 season has been an interesting one to say the least. Being my first year serving on the Board of Directors as FYHA's Director of Discipline, it was definitely a learning experience and one that I am grateful for. I had the privilege of working with a Board of Directors who are all hard-working and dedicated people who deeply care about the betterment of the association and the kind of hockey experience that the kids get to have. This has been inspiring to see.

Strengths

This being the first year having an official Director of Discipline post, it has been easy to see that the position is needed. This year has been instrumental in helping us as a Board understand the importance of accountability for Board Members, Coaches, game officials, parents and players alike. We dealt with many complaints this year from all different divisions in the association and I was always extremely appreciative of people's time and flexibility when dealing with matters of discipline. The teamwork exemplified by those on the Board who have been willing to help with discipline matters and the willingness of parents, coaches and division coordinators has made this job much easier – thank you!

Challenges

While I have been lucky to have the support of my fellow Board Members when assembling committees and making decisions about disciplinary measures, it has not come without its challenges. One of the biggest challenges that we encountered this year involved some contention with our current policies about reporting discipline matters. This is something that I hope will be looked at during the coming year. As always, we faced challenges with differences in ideologies on behalf of coaches, parents and players alike where this often resulted in contention about decisions made by the committee. While I hope that this is something that can be worked on in coming years, I recognize that this is a part of every group-environment.

Closing Comments

This being my first year on the FYHA Board of Directors, I believe that I did the best that I could with the resources that I was given. This opportunity afforded me the chance to grow as a professional in a different setting, to meet and build new relationships with other professionals, and the experience of being able to handle volatile situations with ease.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Jones
Director of Discipline

2019/20 FYHA Volunteer of the Year Awards

HNB Award

Volunteer of the Year

- TBA

FYHA Division Awards

TimBit/Initiation Division

- TBA
- TBA

Novice Division

- TBA
- TBA

Atom Division

- TBA
- TBA

PeeWee Division

- TBA
- TBA

Bantam Division

- TBA
- TBA

Midget Division

- TBA
- TBA