

# FREDERICTON YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

## ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

Presented at the Annual General Meeting  
May 20, 2010



900 Hanwell Road, Suite 13  
Fredericton, NB E3B 6A2  
Tel: 506 451-1333  
Fax: 506 451-1325  
ed@fyha.ca  
www.fyha.ca

<b>BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009-2010</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE COUNCIL</b>
Mark MacFadzen, President
Joel Banks, Vice President
Dwight Ganong, Director of Operations
Michel Savoie, Treasurer
<b>DIRECTORS</b>
Eric Bissonette, Director of Coaching
Chris Hickey, Director of Officials
Sheila Lyons, Director of Female Program
Christine Smith, Director of Discipline
Raymond Curtis, Director of Property & Equipment
Phil Lamey, Director of Special Events
<b>COORDINATORS</b>
Darren Shakotko, Timbits Coordinator
Sterling Brown, Novice Coordinator
Scott Lockhart, Atom Coordinator
Chad Farrell, Pee wee Coordinator
Hazel Wells, Bantam Coordinator
Richard Vautour, Midget Coordinator
<b>EMPLOYEE</b>
Danielle McLeod, Executive Director



## **Executive Director report by Danielle McLeod**

A contract was undertaken with GoalLine Sports Administration Software and a new FYHA logo and website were created. The new website facilitated easier and more frequent communication with the membership. As well, each team had their own specific team webpage within the association's website. The F'ton minor hockey officials association was linked to the FYHA website as all scheduling is now done through an online system. This allowed for officials to be booked for games through the assigning online system. This arrangement worked very well for both parties.

A total of 8 teams received sponsorship money this season. The DQ sponsorship was renewed last season through a new contract which saw 3 more teams receive new jerseys and socks this season – the Atom competitive Blizzards, Atom recreation Stars, and Atom recreation Avalanche. A new contract was created with Coastal Graphics and Colpitts Developments for these 2 teams to receive new jerseys and socks – the Peewee competitive CG Ice Dogs and the Bantam competitive Colpitts Canucks. Scotiabank agreed to sponsor two more teams this season – the Bantam recreation Flames and Bantam recreation Blue Jackets. The Nasid Lion's Club came on board as a new sponsor this season with the Midget competitive Wild. In total, FYHA received \$12,000 from these sponsors.

Four new policies were developed and approved by the association in the off season. The "Police record check policy" was created to provide a safe environment for our players. In an effort to protect the youth involved with the FYHA, we now require all team officials (those rostered with the Hockey Canada registry) to complete a background check with their local police department. The "Discriminatory slurs policy" was created to outline the expectations of the association of how on-ice officials are to react if an incident occurs involving a player being penalized for engaging in verbal taunts, insults, or intimidation based on discriminatory grounds (race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or language). The "Mandatory helmet policy" was created to protect coaches from on-ice head injuries by mandating that each team official (head coach, assistant coach, trainer, manager, volunteer) under the jurisdiction of the FYHA be required to wear a CSA approved helmet during all on-ice activities. The "Head injuries and concussions policy" was created to protect the players' safety and health, and in doing so, determining the most appropriate time in which a player may return to play once that individual has suffered a suspected or identified head injury.

This season, online registration was provided through Service NB. This allowed parents to register their children one of three ways: mail-in, in-person, and online registration. Although the online registration was only available for a short time, about one third of the membership used this method of payment. Job descriptions for all Board member positions were created as a way to communicate to new individuals on the Board the expectations set out for their position. A detailed breakdown of monthly activities will set a clear path of direction rather than have the new individual re-learn the process all over again on their own.

A comprehensive 20 page Coaches Manual was created to outline expectations and processes that are pertinent to the coach position. This effort will see a better organized and more clearly defined season and allow coaches to fully understand the guidelines they are to follow.

This season saw the establishment of an annual Midget Recognition Night which showcases the contribution and commitment of our graduating Midget players to the association. This will be done in conjunction with the FYHA Year-End Championship Day next season.

Coach evaluations were conducted during the middle part of the season to ascertain the performance of coaches. A report was presented to the Board and is kept on file to be consulted during next season's coach selection process. A greater emphasis will be placed on coach performance next season as the Director of Coaching along with the Executive Director evaluate coaches during practices and games.

During the off-season, a schedule template to be used by all divisions will be devised so as to make scheduling fair and consistent for all teams. Templates will be used by all division coordinators and must be adhered to at all times.

Danielle McLeod  
Executive Director

## **President report by Mark MacFadzen**

Last year I stated at the beginning of my report “The success of your association is built upon volunteers, no one gets a remuneration for their efforts. The littlest involvement can go a long way in continuing to make your association topped ranked in our province and helping your volunteers want to continue their involvement.”

We made some major changes that would only be noticed behind the scenes, but our members have three ways that they evaluate our success 1) ice management 2) the effectiveness of coaching and team management, and 3) whether it was fun. The fun part is directly affected by the prior two elements, thus when I received complaints about scheduling or coaching, we know the fun element may be missing.

Scheduling continues to be a challenge where special events interfere with ice time flow. Hopefully a solution we have been negotiating with Doaktown, Nackawic, and Chipman on renting ice through the special event periods and having mini jamborees for teams that have not booked out of town tournaments may resolve this yearly challenge. Goal is for teams to play couple of games either against club teams or district teams.

The other challenge is coach training and development, we will be recommending that the new coaching director actually have up to three individuals to help in evaluating and assessing coach issues. We have some coaches, at all levels, missing opportunities to use enhanced communication training to ensure all players and parents understand the programs the teams are operating under. An example, the district held an information session of all competitive teams to outline the season, play-offs, and rules, we had two representatives out of the required eleven FYHA teams to attend, thus as the season progress, we still had parents and coaches not understanding the district season outline.

Ice time was started earlier but low turnout per ice time was disappointing due to other commitments and ice time location. Evaluation process was all over the board regarding each division, the outline was not communicated and monitored as well as it should of been, thus improvements are being made. The draft process was well accepted by coaches and results were still mixed, depending on division and teams. Competitive coaches were still missing qualified players due to draft evaluation. More information for coaches, about the players, needs to be made available for them at the draft.

Discipline committee had a relatively quiet first half the year, the second half picked up but was again below prior year numbers. We found that we did have more issues with parent conflicts which included coaches and other parents. There was a marked increase in complaints regarding referee on ice behavior, these are being addressed by the referee in chief. Your president met with government officials to address racial slurs and we contacted other associations across the country to get some feedback, thus we have implemented a tougher internal policy.

District schedulers had challenges when communicating with some of our coordinators and it made it tough to complete schedules in a timely matter. Teams continue to submit tournaments well after schedules were completed and thus increased the potential for unbalanced playing schedule. This causes teams playing same team several times due to unavailability of different teams. Competitive C district play-offs caused major headaches due to poor communication about dates to associations.

District required all teams to use the glove bump instead of handshake due to H1N1. This had mixed results in acceptance but district passed motion for it to be done at Atom levels and higher, post game incidents declined immensely especially for midget division.

Challenges for the 2010/11 Season:

We are still looking for official nominations for Operations (executive positions), Female Director, Atom and Pee wee Co-ordinators. I will continue to work with new and old board members to pursue our options. I would like to thank all current board members for their past involvement and continued support. This year we have Joel Banks (Vice President) and Eric Bissonette (Coaching Director) not re-offering their names. A special thank you to both of them for their time and commitment since their involvement.

Personally, I will be re-offering my services and time for 2010 – 11 season. I look forward to confronting the ever changing issues we have within our program and being prepared in helping make the hard decisions that your board deals with on a day to day basis.

Sincerely,

Mark MacFadzen  
FYHA President

## **Vice President report by Joel Banks**

As we bring the 2009-2010 season to an end and begin looking forward to 2010 – 2011, we should take this opportunity to look at our association in the past year and some of the challenges that we face in the future.

As out-going Vice President, I would like to extend my thanks to those who do volunteer and try to make minor hockey a success story. There are many who have stepped forward at the team level; coaches, assistants, managers, safety persons, fundraisers, tournament chairs, etc. Without their time and dedication, there would be no minor hockey program.

I would also like to thank the parents who drive the players to the rink, run the clock, do the game sheets, help fund raise, and sit in the stands and cheer on their team. The players, who come out to learn, develop, and compete must be recognized as well. Their interest in the sport is our motto. We should never forget that.

I would like to thank my past and present fellow members of the Board. They all took on the task of managing their own divisions as well as the responsibility of ensuring that FYHA players had a positive hockey experience. It is a daunting task and, while you may sometimes disagree with their decisions, you cannot question the level of their commitment.

We have made some strides forward this season but there is always room for improvement and some challenges facing us. We have a waiting list in most divisions. There seems to be many issues in minor hockey from costs, volunteers, and as well the availability of ice. Looking into our crystal ball of the future, it seems it is not likely that this problem will be resolved in the short term. On that note we must continue to try to make the best use of a finite resource.

Financially, we are on sound footing; however, it seems that we may have to make a small increase to our registration fees for next season to offset some of the increased costs we face from many different areas.

We could do a better job when it comes to sponsorships and fundraising perhaps helping the association create a small surplus. Given the effects the ongoing economic challenges, this area may help on our ability to raise funds, it is prudent to have a financial cushion.

Our players have been competitive on the ice, but we should strive to improve their skill development. Not every six year old is destined for the NHL, or even the Atom Development Team, but they will be a better player if the coaches take the time to teach them the basic skills of the game at an early age and then help them progress from season to season. There are manuals available if we are prepared to make use of them.

We have made some changes in our Operations Manual; as well we will be looking at the area of player evaluation and placement, but also in discipline and fundamental operational procedures. This will be an ongoing process for the next Board Members.

The Board needs help to encourage input from the membership and there needs to be a better process to help meet some minimum standards for players and development. We sometimes see that the members never speak and when they do the Board is a little hard of hearing. As a Board, we need to

really start looking at better programs and ideas to help make the year more rewarding and inspirational; sometimes it seems we get caught up in handing out sweaters .

One of the most significant challenges we face is the ongoing lack of respect, both on and off the ice. Unfortunately this frequently originates at the adult level and children can be quick learners and are soon emulating their coaches and parents. We are encouraged to teach our players work ethic, skills, and leadership. Perhaps more time should be spent on teaching sportsmanship and respect; respect for teammates, coaches, rules, and opponents and, most importantly, respect for oneself.

In closing, I would like to thank the membership for giving me the opportunity to serve as Vice President of FYHA for the Past 5 Years.

Respectfully:  
Joel Banks

## **Director of Operations report by Dwight Ganong**

### **Operations Overview**

Operations for the 2009-2010 carried over directly from the end of the previous season. With a full season under her belt, Danielle McLeod (Executive Director) continued finding ways in which to improve the operational aspects of the organization, from registration, through evaluation and the draft processes. Of note was the implementation of a new FYHA website. Although there were a few growing pains early on, mostly around scheduling, the majority view was that the website was a success, and was used by all levels of the organization throughout the year.

By early September, the FYHA received its ice allocations from the city, as well as the tentative schedule of special events for the coming season. The FYHA had 2 regular ice times taken away in Keswick Valley, but were fortunate enough to obtain 2 new midweek, evening ice cycles at the York arena. Armed with registration numbers, the tentative ice allocation by division was ready by the end of September.

### **Registration**

The formal in-person registration process took place from Sept. 16-19, 2009. As in the previous year, the number of mail-in registrations continued to increase. The total number of players registered was 1059, a slight decrease from the previous season (1089). The following table reflects actual registrants by division.

<b>Division</b>	<b># registered</b>	<b>Teams/Groups</b>
Timbits	122 (+9)	3 groups/12 teams
Novice	183 (-22)	3 Groups Novice minor 3 Groups Novice Major
Atom	190 (-15)	4 Comp, 8 Rec
Peewee	224 (+30)	4 Comp, 9 Rec
Bantam	175 (-28)	3 Comp, 8 Rec
Midget	165 (-4)	1 Comp, 9 Rec
<b>Total</b>	<b>1059 (-30)</b>	

### **Ice allocation**

Operations started the year with a huge challenge of reorganizing all ice allocations due to the new city schedule that was received in early September. The impact of city-scheduled special events increased again, as additional tournaments/special events were added to the calendar. Ice cycles were allocated to each division, based on the teams per division of the previous FYHA season. Obtaining the 2 new mid-week evening ice cycles alleviated some pressures in allocating suitable ice to the divisions.

As usual, in order to make up for ice lost to special events, it was necessary to obtain and allocate additional ice that could be obtained from the city. The amount of additional ice available this year was less than in the previous year, although the amount available over the Christmas and March breaks was

similar. The initial agreed upon end to the FYHA season was April 4, 2010. As a result of some date changes for special events, and the occurrence of Easter on that final weekend, it was decided to instead finish the FYHA season on Thursday, April 1. These changes resulted in Recreational Championship games being scattered throughout the week, as opposed to the preferred single Championship Day.

## Player evaluations

On ice evaluations were started on Mon, Oct 12 and were completed by Recreational (Oct 31) and Competitive (Oct 24) draft days. There were some issues with respect to ensuring all players, including those trying out for high school, 'AAA' and competitive teams were evaluated in the division for which they were to be drafted. As recommended last year, the competitive drafts were held the week prior to the Recreational drafts. It was generally agreed that this was better.

## Draft

The competitive and Recreational drafts went rather smoothly. A last second adjustment in the Midget division saw the number of competitive/recreational teams changed to 1 and 9. This received much negative feedback as to how and why the decision was made. The process around this should be made clear to all Board members and association members moving forward to ensure it is understood.

## Scheduling

Although there were the occasional schedule problems for individual ice times such as no-shows, double-bookings, no referees, etc, there were no major scheduling issues. The frequency of issues increased somewhat during the Christmas and March breaks, and during the final week of the season. Each of these periods saw a large number of additional ice times distributed and schedule changes, thus increasing the probability of oversights or miscommunications. **One issue that "still" needs to be improved is the frequency of no-shows and late cancellations for early morning practices.** The FYHA must pay for the ice anyway, and the rink staff end up arriving early to work for no reason.

Allocation of the 2 mid-week evening ice times helped alleviate scheduling issues to some degree, as well as implementation of the new FYHA website. The number of scheduling issues was less than the previous year, but still requires improvement. **The following are a few items, among others, which the FYHA will continue to pursue and attempt to change in the allocation of and scheduling of ice times:**

- **Additional mid-week, evening ice** – improved this past year
- **Increase ice allocation for special needs, such as goalie training, coaching events, skill development events etc.**
- **Moving some Bantam Recreational and Midget Recreational ice times to midweek** – improved this year
- **Replacing some of the mid-week early morning practice times with more convenient times (especially for younger groups)** – will require new ice
- **Reduction in the number of ice times left empty and double-bookings** – improved this year

## FYHA Ice Cycles

The following table represents FYHA ice cycle usage from Oct 12, 2009 – April 1, 2010;

Rink	# regular cycles	Cycles lost	New cycles	Cycles cancelled (late)	Total cycles used
O'Ree #1	730	125	71	30 (4)	<b>646</b>
O'Ree #2	709	96	54	37 (5)	<b>630</b>
York	709	67	81	20 (4)	<b>693</b>
LBR	145	27	78	16 (0)	<b>180</b>
Keswick Valley	40	4	0	0 (0)	<b>36</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2333</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>103(13)</b>	<b>2185</b>

Notes: 1. Although the actual total is not known, there were at least 25 no-show ice times.

2. 117 ice cycles were used for the Capital Invitational Tournament

3. FYHA season wrapped up on April 1, 2010

4. Cycles lost were primarily due to City of Fredericton Special Events, holidays and occasional rink closures.

5. Cancellations were almost all early morning 6:00 Am practice times ( 90/103 – 87 % )

The following table shows actual FYHA hours used by month by rink from October, 2009 through March, 2010 (April 1 is included in March totals)

Rink	Oct 2009	Nov 2009	Dec 2009	Jan 2010	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	2009-2010 Season
O'Ree #1	87.25	129.75	123.50	162.00	130.00	150.75	<b>783.25</b>
O'Ree #2	88.25	114.95	117.25	146.25	154.00	177.75	<b>798.45</b>
York	94.25	174.25	141.25	156.25	144.50	197.25	<b>907.75</b>
LBR	12.25	26.25	24.00	17.75	19.50	95.25	<b>195</b>
Keswick Valley	0.00	7.00	6.00	8.00	7.00	8.00	<b>36</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>452.2</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>490.25</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>2720.45</b>

## Ice cost increases

The past year saw increases in the cost of ice times from the city. This coupled with expected increases in the coming 2010-2011 season will put much strain on the accounts of the FYHA. With 2 year increases in the range of 20-40 %, it will be necessary for the FYHA to pursue ways in which to increase revenues, while minimizing increases to registrations costs.

## Year End

The 2009-2010 FYHA hockey season wrapped up on Thursday, April 1.

Dwight Ganong  
Director of Operations

## **Treasurer report by Michel Savoie**

The year 2009-10 has been a challenging year financially. Compared to 2008-09 season when we finished the year in a surplus position, 2009-10 finished with a deficit of (\$33,516). See Income statement Appendix A

Factors contributing to deficit include: a reduction in revenue, \$10/hour increase in ice rental rates (which equate to an increase greater than 20% increase), equipment costs, and coach & team staff training (see table below).

	2008/09	2009/10	Increase (decrease) over last year
Registration Revenue	\$333,517	\$326,087	(\$7,430)
<b>Overall Revenue</b>	<b>\$413,652</b>	<b>\$410,303</b>	<b>(\$3,349)</b>
\$10/hr increase ice rentals	\$162,941	\$197,109	\$34,168
Equipment	\$18,193	\$30,838	\$12,645
Coaches Training Net of recoveries	\$2,990	\$9,377	\$6,387
<b>Total increase in cost (ice, equipment and coach training)</b>			<b>\$53,200</b>

Prior to the 2009/10 fiscal, only rough estimates were made to determine if our annual March tournament was self funding and contributing to the FYHA's bottom line or costing more than revenue brought in. In order to properly measure the annual event's financial impact, all revenues and expenses related to this year's Capital Invitational have been allocated to the tournament including referees and ice rental. The Capital Invitational had revenues \$32,013 and expenses including referees of \$28,600.45 (including referees) leaving \$3415.55 to cover ice rentals. With the allocation of \$10,808.22<sup>1</sup> for ice, the overall costs of capital invitational exceeded tournament revenues by \$7,395.67. This information will be used by the tournament committee to help make future tournaments self-sufficient and contributing to the FYHA's financial bottom line.

---

<sup>1</sup> Ice rental cost were determined by using the referee billing to determine the number hours of ice allocated to the Capital Invitational.

In 2010-11, the FYHA will be facing an even bigger challenge when faced with a second across the board \$10 per hour increase of ice rental rates from the city of Fredericton. This will translate into an increase of greater than 40% in rental costs in over two years for the FYHA heading into the upcoming season or in excess of \$64,000 more than 2008-09.

For 2010, we should see a reduction in equipment expenditures and coach training as mostly new coaches and team staff should require training will be reduced next year. Unfortunately, these anticipated expenditure reductions will not be enough to offset the increase ice rentals next year. Therefore, the new board must look at increasing our 2010 registration fees to help cover the cost increases facing the association.

Moving forward, cost pressures will continue. It is important the future board look at increasing revenues from other avenues such as sponsorships and fundraising to help keep hockey as affordable as possible; otherwise, fewer kids could be playing the sport they love.

Sincerely,

Michel Savoie  
FYHA Treasurer

Appendix A 2010 Financial Statements

<b>Fredericton Youth Hockey Assoc.</b>			
<b>Income Statement 01/05/2009 to 30/04/2010</b>			
<b>REVENUE</b>			
<b>FYHA Registration Revenues</b>		<b>326,086.99</b>	
<b>Competive Fees revenue</b>		<b>18,000.00</b>	
<b>Capital Invitational</b>			
Capital Sponsorship		855.00	
Capital Invitational Misc. Revenue		120.00	
Capital Invitational 50/50 draws		208.00	
Prizes Sales		493.00	
Program Sales		150.00	
Capital Inv Tournament registration		30,712.00	
Capital Inv. Tournament Refund		-525.00	
<b>Total Capital Invitational</b>		<b>32,013.00</b>	
<b>Other Operating Revenue</b>			
Program Fees		655.00	
Novice Jamboree revenue		2,860.00	
Timbits IP Revenues		1,200.00	
<b>Total Other Operating revenue</b>		<b>4,715.00</b>	
<b>Other Revenue</b>			
Web Advertising		0.00	
Hockey Pool Revenue		280.00	
In memory of Dale Cosman		840.00	
Donations - Bequests		100.00	
Corporate Sponsorship ED		12,470.88	
Interest Revenue		2,180.05	
Golf Tournament		3,426.12	
Miscellaneous Revenue		3,574.30	
Coach Training Recoveries		1,665.00	
Ice Recoveries		4,951.41	
<b>Total Other Revenue</b>		<b>29,487.76</b>	
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>			<b>410,302.75</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>			
<b>Ice Rentals</b>		<b>197,108.79</b>	
<b>League Costs</b>			
League Fees		2,250.00	
Total Officials		55,165.00	
Hockey New Brunswick		51,910.75	
Medals & Trophies		3,736.94	
Coaches and team officials training		11,041.93	
League Miscellaneous		355.95	
Total equipment expenses		30,837.93	
<b>Total League Costs</b>		<b>155,298.50</b>	

<b>Capital Tournament expenses</b>			
Rink Supervision		1,800.00	
Welcome desk		450.00	
Food & Beverage expenses		1,135.61	
Capital Invitational Web Hosting		500.00	
Supplies including programs		551.29	
Clock Expenses		1,672.00	
Miscellaneous expenses Capital		1,103.81	
Capital 50/50 payouts		148.00	
Capital Prizes		508.46	
Medals		6,599.76	
SLAG & Jackets		8,255.52	
<b>Total Capital Expenses</b>		<b>22,724.45</b>	
<b>Jamboree Expenses</b>			
Novice Jamboree		2,809.20	
Timbits Jamboree		477.12	
<b>Total Jamboree Expenses</b>		<b>3,286.32</b>	
<b>Payroll Expenses</b>			
Wages & Salaries		37,570.01	
EI Expense		910.11	
CPP Expense		1,685.78	
Blue Cross & benefits		583.77	
Employee RRSP Deductions		1,689.49	
<b>Total Payroll Expense</b>		<b>42,439.16</b>	
<b>General &amp; Administrative Expenses</b>			
Audit Expenses		192.00	
Advertising & Promotions		933.11	
Bad Debts		1,050.00	
Courier & Postage		168.78	
Printing		125.11	
Service New Brunswick Charges		5,303.13	
Insurance		894.75	
Bank Charges -Fees		266.93	
Bank Depsits fees		179.60	
Nsf fees recoveries		-25.00	
GPFS fees --cra		14.00	
Office Supplies		264.99	
hockey pool expenses		246.00	
Golf Tournament Expenses		1,468.17	
Miscellaneous Expenses		5,042.30	
Rent		5,369.76	
Website related expenses		508.50	
Internet and Other Communication		60.00	
Telephone		749.45	
ED Travel --Mileage	149.88		
Total Ed Travel related expenses		149.88	
<b>Total General &amp; Admin. Expenses</b>		<b>22,961.46</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>			<b>443,818.68</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>			<b>(\$33,515.93)</b>

<b>Fredericton Youth Hockey Assoc.</b>			
<b>Balance Sheet As at 30/04/2010</b>			
<b>ASSET</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Petty Cash	50.00		
Savings Bank Account	0.00		
Chequing Bank Account	152.15		
Total Cash		202.15	
Investments		103,125.00	
Total Receivable		5,843.41	
Prepaid Insurance	299.81		
Total Prepaid expenses		299.81	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>109,470.37</b>	
<b>Capital Assets</b>			
Office Equipment & software	325.00		
Accum. Amort. -Equip. & Software	0.00		
Net - Furniture & Equipment		325.00	
<b>Total Capital Assets</b>		<b>325.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL ASSET</b>			<b>109,795.37</b>
<b>LIABILITY</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Accounts Payable	2,206.13		
Opening A/P Trial Balance Apr 1/08	238.20		
Ice Rentals payable	0.00		
League Payables	0.00		
Total Operations Items payable		2,444.33	
EI Payable	450.76		
CPP Payable	967.94		
Federal Income Tax Payable	1,430.60		
Total Receiver General		2,849.30	
Benefits Expense Payable		-53.07	
Employer Match RRSP Expense Payable		-67.30	
Benefits Deduction 1 Payable		-53.07	
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>5,120.19</b>	
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>			
Bank Loans		0.00	
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>		<b>0.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL LIABILITY</b>			<b>5,120.19</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
<b>Share Capital</b>			
Common Shares		0.00	
Preferred Shares		0.00	
<b>Total Share Capital</b>		<b>0.00</b>	
<b>Retained Earnings</b>			
Retained Earnings - Previous Year		138,191.11	
Current Earnings		-33,515.93	
<b>Total Retained Earnings</b>		<b>104,675.18</b>	
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>104,675.18</b>	
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>			<b>109,795.37</b>

## **Director of Coaching report by Eric Bissonette**

The 2009-2010 season was a successful season, but there is always room for improvement. We have made some strides with an informal coaches' evaluation (Danielle). It would be very important in order to improve the quality of our coaches to get the feed back from our members. There are only about 5% of our members who take the time to fill-out the FYHA coaches evaluation form. Getting the information back is crucial with regards to coaching selection and the improvement of the level of instructions.

HNB started doing sessions after Christmas on a monthly basis called "Coaches Corner" last year and all of our coaches would really benefit in attending these sessions. I understand that our coaches are volunteers, but we need as an association to elevate our standard with the instruction provided to our young players.

Very few complaints were brought to my attention this past year. One concern I have is the behaviour behind the bench of some of our coaches when interacting with officials. This needs to improve. Hockey is an emotional game, but we need to do our best to be good role models for our young players. Any coach can have a bad day, but it is a concern when the same coach is having multiple bad days.

This year, we had a Sunday clinic for goalies with Ben MacFarlane. This was a huge success. The only downfall was that the sessions took place every Sunday and some of our goalies could not participate due to scheduling conflicts. I would certainly encourage the association to continue with that and perhaps have 2 different time slots if available.

Our coaches need more help on the technical side, i.e. how to run effective practices, how to incorporate goalies into a practice, how to run half ice practice, etc. If we were effective at running half ice practice, we could easily double our ice time without increasing our fees.

Putting clinics together would be very valuable for everyone (players and coaches). This should be planned and organized for September and October prior to the start of the season and with some clinics over the winter.

All in all, if we invest time and effort with our coaches, the players will be the beneficiaries of it!

Best Regards,  
Eric Bissonette

## **Director of Property & Equipment report by Raymond Curtis**

The year started with purchasing new equipment for the goalies in the Novice division for a total of \$3014.61.

Purchased try-out jerseys for Midget for a total of \$3107.50 which will be used every year for evaluations.

Ordered pucks for a total of \$2847.60.

Purchased new socks and replaced jerseys for a total of \$4974.22.

The Atom division had 3 new sets of jerseys, Bantam recreational also had 3 new sets of jerseys, Pee wee division had one new set of jerseys, and Midget also had one new set of jerseys provided which was a total of \$16,372.40.

Sponsorship money that was collected this year was a total of \$12,000.00.

Total spent for season 2009-2010 was \$30,316.33.

FYHA spent \$18,316.33 after the deduction of sponsorship money.

We will be looking at about \$20,000 for equipment next year for the Midget division unless we find some sponsors for them.

Raymond Curtis  
Equipment Manager

## **Director of Female Development by Sheila Lyons**

This association, in the Tidbit and Novice levels, created female teams to play against their male counterparts and against other female novice teams in the province. The goal was to get the female players used to playing on a female team and to increase their development as female players. The players and parents seem to really enjoy their female games against the other St. John novice team but some still fell back into the thinking that their daughters were not getting the same development as their male counterparts. In the end all players improved their skill from where they were in September to the end of February. The goal this year for FYHA will be decide if they would like to create the female teams again, move on to the higher divisions or to come up with some other strategies that could create more female development in the association.

I am also submitting a report from the head coach of the novice female team to demonstrate her experience.

Respectfully submitted

Sheila Grondin Lyons  
Director of Female Program

## **Director of Special Events report by Phil Lamey**

### **Background:**

Last season was a new beginning of sorts for the Capital Invitational. We introduced the championship jackets that we hope will become a draw to our annual tournament. We built new relationships with community partners that want to become partners in helping us host our annual event.

Much thanks to our partners for the event:

- Coastal Graphics, Ramada Hotel, Nashwaaksis Y's Men, Northern Trophies & Engraving, Fred FM

Much thanks as well to the organizing committee:

- Phil Lamey, Chair
- Hazel Wells/Raymond Curtis, York Manager
- Danielle McLeod, O'Ree 1 Manager
- Jarrett McLeod, O'Ree 2 Manager
- Gary Thorne/Gwen Thorne, LBR Manager
- Dwight Ganong, Operations/@ Large
- Richard Vautour, Midget Coordinator
- Cheryl Scammel/Matty Lamey, Welcome/Information, @ Large
- Sterling Brown, @ Large
- Joel Tingley/Matty Lamey, Information/Photography
- Plus all the fine young men and women who helped with running the clocks and other miscellaneous activities.

Here is an overview of the tournament registration:

Atom Rec – 8 teams	Atom comp – 4 teams
Peewee Rec – 8 teams	Peewee Comp – 8 teams
Bantam Rec – 10 teams	Bantam Comp – 8 teams
Midget Rec – 10 teams	Midget Comp – 5 teams

Two divisions were won by Fredericton teams, which is wonderful because it will help us give the brand visibility within the community.

### **Highlights:**

- Website with automatic updates ... VERY well received
- Teams from as far away as PEI
- Many positive emails about the quality of our volunteers and tournament
- Teams from Tri County in their first year as a minor hockey association
- Many teams displayed fantastic sportsmanship

### **Lowlights:**

- Some teams displayed poor fair play. Unfortunately as a tournament committee that is somewhat out of our control. I am pleased to say all Fredericton teams displayed great fair play and were gracious hosts to our visitors.
- Some incidents. One in particular was very ugly. I feel that we, as a committee, need to do a better job of preparing ourselves for incidents.
- Questions about officiating. Aren't there always ... I thank Chris and his team of officials for all their hard work. We will look into how we can improve next season.



Costs for ice are still to be paid with the remaining funds. The goal is to give as much as possible without costing the FYHA. I feel we were successful in doing that this season.

**Forward Looking:**

Many of our committee has volunteered to return for another season. I thank them VERY much. Foot in door registration will be starting VERY shortly. Yes ... within the next week **START REGISTERING YOUR TEAMS FOR NEXT SEASON** (no \$\$\$ involved for foot in door registration).

Changes for next season:

- Shoot out challenge (at each level)
- Banquets for each division (the night before the championship games)
- Comp and Rec divisions to start and end on same days for ALL divisions
- No programs ... all information will be on the website.

**Conclusion:**

I look forward to a great tournament next season and I hope that the brand that we have worked to introduce will take off and start a great tradition. Something worth playing for ...

Next season will be my final season as Chair. I am hoping someone will step up and shadow my efforts next season so they will be able to pick up where I am leaving off. It shouldn't be difficult with such a great team around you. Please let me know if you have any questions, comments or concerns.

## **Timbits Coordinator report by Darren Shakotko**

I want to send a big thank you to the many coaches and volunteers it takes to run a successful Initiation Program. For the 2009-2010 season, FYHA had 120 male and female players for the timbit program. These players were split into three groups of 40 that used both ice surfaces at the Willie O'Ree and one at the York. The ice times consisted of every Wednesday afternoon and Saturday morning. Thank you to Dwight for the consistent allocation of additional ice to help create more opportunities to get on the ice or to make up for lost ice due to other events.

Thank you to the coaches/parents who volunteered their time to run the practices and to make the program what it is and that is first and foremost about having fun and learning skill development to play the game of hockey.

Thank you to Sterling Brown who organized the entire Jamboree at the end of the year. The jamboree was great, and the pizza party was well prepared with excellent prizes for the players. Thank you to the many sponsors who donated money or provided prizes for this event.

As I prepare for another year as the Timbit Coordinator, I wish for everyone to pay attention to the following amendment in the Minor Operation manual "15.13.a" that will be coming forward to the HNB June AGM. In short, the amendment is HNB and Minor Council moving towards keeping with the Long Term Player Development Model. This amendment will specify the amount of practices, "modified" games, start date for the "modified games" and Jamborees our players are allowed to have during a given season.

A couple of important points need to be addressed

1. Games for Timbits players are to be classified as Modified Games

The definition of a modified game is *Modified games are half ice/cross ice hockey played as a 3on3 or 4on4 with no goaltenders, no referees and no score clock. The use of 1, 2, or 3 pucks can be used to aid in the skill development of puck control during these modified games.*

I bring this up as this will be a slight change to current practices. We did follow this model with the exception that some groups were always playing with one puck and were always doing face offs with the kids that would start the next 2 minute playing interval. The elimination of face offs will fall in line with the Hockey Canada guideline of 85% technical (Player Skill Development) and 15% Tactical (Player learning how to play game like situations ie: 1 on 1, 2 on 1, or give and go passes). Face offs fall into the team play systems of the skill development pyramid and that is taught at the Novice level.

2. A schedule has been created for next year. The schedule is complete with practice schedule; start date for modified games; when players are to be split into their equal teams to play against each other and a twice a year National Skills Testing Standard program (NSST). The schedule will help eliminate other ice surfaces from starting to play the modified games too early in the season. Our main goal is to create a fun atmosphere and provide the skill development that players need to have fun and be successful as they grow older to play more competitive hockey.
3. The NSST was created by Hockey Canada as a way to help measure skill development for our players. We will do this twice during the year to measure skill at the beginning of the season and to measure improvement at the end of the year.

## **Novice Coordinator report by Sterling Brown**

Overall, the FYHA Novice Division operated with very few problems this past season. There were 178 players divided into Novice 1<sup>st</sup> year (74 players) and Novice 2<sup>nd</sup> year (104 players). This is the second year that this group has been divided into two separate groups for skill development purposes. In cases where parents, coaches, and the coordinator were in agreement, players in their first year of hockey or first time skaters were permitted to play down a division to support their development. There were 6 kids that were approved to play down this past season.

It should be acknowledged that Kent McKinney and Peter MacWilliam jointly coordinated the Novice 1 division this past season and did a great job directing the 3 groups of Novice first year kids.

I coordinated the Novice 2 division directing the 3 groups of second year kids and prepared one schedule each month for both the first and second year divisions.

### **Novice Girls Hockey**

An “all-girls” team participated in the FYHA Novice Program for the first time this year. I organized a meeting prior to the start of the season to provide information to parents of female players. Participation on the “all-girls” team was optional as several of the girls had already played 3 years with boys. Of the 21 girls registered in Novice, 17 chose to play on the all girls team. This team resided in the Novice 1<sup>st</sup> year division even though there was a mix of first and second year players. The team was not competitive with the boys’ teams during games this season. Efforts made to play other “all-girls” teams came later in the season and there were only a few games between the FYHA Novice girls and a girls’ team from the Saint John area. These games proved to be very competitive and fun for the kids because of the parity in terms of skill level. Many of the parents were not satisfied with this hockey experience. In conclusion, I think as an organization, we did not achieve our objective. If female hockey is going to thrive at this level, we need to do more.

### **Coaching & Development**

As in previous years, there were plenty of coaches and volunteers to help out. I held a coaches meeting prior to the start of the season to ensure all coaches understood the certification rules, knew the format for the year, how groups/teams would be selected, key timelines, etc.. Coaches did attend the required courses but did not seem to take advantage of the other courses offered by HNB. In retrospect, I would do more next year to encourage coaches to attend as many of these as they can.

Another area of concern as it pertains to development is goaltending. There were only a few full-time goalies playing in the Novice 2 division this past season. We started with one and ended up with about 3 kids that seem dedicated to playing goalie. To try to get kids more interested, I used an extra-ice time to hold an “Intro To Goalie” session. Frank Leblanc provided excellent instruction to 12 kids interested in trying the goalie position. In retrospect, we need to have 3 of these sessions throughout the year to help get goalies interested and help coaches understand some basic goalie drills.

Novice 1 and 2 teams followed the same format this year in terms of practice to games ratio. All groups practiced for the October and November ice-times and starting the first Saturday in December began playing games. The normal routine for December to March was to practice during the weekday ice-time and play a game on Saturday or Sunday.

Referees were introduced in games starting in January and coaches some time in practices teaching the off-sides and some of the other basics in preparation of games.

There was good parity between all the Novice 2 teams as the groups were divided at the start by skill-level with some minor adjustments after the first two ice-times. Coaches within each of the three groups rated the players by 3 skill-levels and then divided then into two teams. There was not as much parity in

Novice 1, with one group having too many higher skilled players placed on one team. The same method for dividing kids up in Novice 2 should have been exercised in this division.

### Scheduling & Ice-times

This year ran very smoothly and all 6 Novice groups (12 teams) ended up with the same number of ice-times within one or two hours. We lost several Friday/Saturday/Sunday ice-times due to special events; however, the Novice/Timbit Picture Day event at Kingswood which was hosted by McKinley's Open Ice and Phil Lamey helped replace the lost ice times. Also, an agreement with Stanley Minor Hockey allowed us to have 5 ice-times that were used by Novice 2 teams that were scheduled to play in Stanley when they had lost their regular Saturday ice-time with the FYHA due to special events. I would also like to acknowledge that Dwight was able to provide extra-ice times at optimal times so as to ensure a team did not go longer than a week without at least one ice-time. Overall, each team averaged 2 ice-times per week.

### FYHA Timbit Novice Jamboree

This year's jamboree was held March 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> and through the support of two major sponsors, Wendy's Restaurants of Fredericton and Canadian Tire Northside, the event was a huge success. A similar format to past years was followed and several parents stepped up to help organize the event. For future jamborees, the FYHA should try to secure the ice-time as early as possible so that planning the event can take place earlier and out of town teams can plan and confirm their attendance.

### Conclusion

Overall it was a great season; however, I would recommend the following to ensure a successful season again next year:

- Ensure all groups/teams are equal in terms of skill-level – coordinators and coaches have to employ the same method in each division/group;
- More effort on behalf of the FYHA to promote girls hockey in Timbits/Novice
- Start organizing the Timbit/Novice Jamboree early in the fall;
- Hold 3 "Intro to Goalie Clinics" versus just one.

## **Atom Coordinator report by Scott Lockhart**

The atom division in 2009-10 benefited overall from a fantastic group of coaches, assistant coaches and managers that resulted in a great year for its four competitive and eight recreational teams.

Although there were concerns, in the beginning, of four competitive teams being too many, the required number of players was reduced to 16 players per team and we remained at four teams. The number of recreational teams remained at 8 teams, with only an average of 16 players per team there as well.

In the Rec division there was significant parity among the teams. The Christmas playoffs saw the Red Wings capture gold, with the Oilers and Rangers taking silver and bronze. In the FYHA year-end tournament, the Bruins took home the gold by way of a thrilling game that was settled by a shootout. The Rangers and Red Wings took the silver and bronze titles respectively.

In the competitive division, all four of our teams did well within the 9 team District. For the most part, all four Fredericton teams were quite even and split wins/losses with each other throughout the winter. The top 5 teams played for the District AA title and the bottom 4 played for the District A title. The only Fredericton team advancing to finals were the DQ Blizzards. They were winners of the District A title in straight games over the Carleton Crunch.

FYHA started the season slightly earlier than last year, and this proved to be beneficial from a scheduling perspective. Loss of ice due to Special Events seemed to be down, over last year, for the Atom division.

### Issues/Concerns:

- Fair Play was somewhat of a concern this year with some teams.
- The amount of practice times for Comp teams was an issue again this year. Teams were only allotted one practice per week at 6:00am on a weekday.
- Officiating at the Comp level. Quality and experience of referees seemed to be considerably different versus last season.
- For the sake of player development, FYHA teams are comprised of 16 or 17 players (basically 3 full lines and 2 goalies). However, some teams from smaller communities in the District are only taking enough players on a team for two lines. And in some cases only one goaltender. This puts these teams in an unfair advantage ``competitive-wise``.

### Coordinator Recommendations:

- FYHA Board and Coaching Committee to be more proactive in enforcing Fair Play across all divisions. It may be a good idea to hold a Fair Play info session for both coaches and parents.
- We need to seriously look at restructuring allocation of ice time when it comes to practices.
- Discuss officiating with President of FMHOA.
- The number of players per team is likely an issue that has to be brought up with the District or HNB.

Overall, the Atom division enjoyed a successful season for all twelve of its teams. The season was characterized by a balanced schedule and minimal on-ice incidents.

Thank you to Shawn Quinlan for stepping up to help manage the recreational division.

We would like to thank the volunteer coaches for their tireless contributions to providing these players with a season of enjoyable, safe, and fun hockey.

Scott Lockhart  
Atom Coordinator  
FYHA

## **Peewee Coordinator report by Chad Farrell**

I am pleased to report that the 2009-2010 season started earlier than what has been the case in past years. This was due at least partly to the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual FYHA golf tournament fundraiser which helped with the purchase of additional ice times. The introduction of these early ice times was a great idea and ought to be pursued in the future where possible as they were extremely helpful in providing players with an opportunity to “get their legs back” for the start of a new season and prior to the evaluation process. They were also extremely helpful to the coaches, particularly the competitive coaches, as they allowed for an in-depth look at the players prior to the draft.

Unfortunately, some momentum to this start was lost given the loss of ice time due to special events early in the season. Several complaints from both parents and coaches were received and, as a result, this should be looked at next season to, if possible, mitigate any loss of momentum. Some extra ice was made available to make up this lost time; however, not all teams took advantage.

A new draft process was implemented this year; rather than the standard point-spread system, an open format was followed. This worked very well and resulted in four competitive teams that appear to have been well-balanced (1 started strong; the others caught up by mid-season and at the end of the season the games between the Fredericton teams were even matches). For the recreational teams, a similar result occurred. There were 9 teams this year that also appeared well-balanced. The 2009 Christmas tournament finished up with an exciting final game where the ND Black Hawks defeated the ND Avalanche in a shootout. The year-end championship was also very exciting with the ND Sharks defeating the ND Stars in another close contest.

Scheduling was a challenge this season due to frequent special events. The competitive schedule was completed by the district peewee coordinator (this year Nackawic), and I completed the recreational schedule. Although the recreational schedule wasn't perfect, I did ensure that there was equal ice time available for games and practices over the course of the FYHA season. Some teams took advantage of their scheduled ice times, while others did not. I note that the schedule had to be modified in Jan/Feb and again in Mar given that some teams hadn't submitted their tournament information in advance as requested and therefore had conflicts that needed to be resolved. This caused some ice times to be changed from games to practices and vice versa. This should be looked at next season to ensure that all teams have their tournament schedules submitted well in advance and preferably by a specific deadline (e.g., December 1<sup>st</sup>.)

As I expect is normally the case, some complaints from parents were received regarding coaching and/or the team environment. These appear to be the result of conflicting expectations, personality differences, or a lack of team fit. Steps were taken to address the complaints made and some player changes occurred to address these issues/concerns/conflicts.

Overall, the season was a success. Many thanks go out to all coaches, players, officials, and parents for their part in this success.

Chad Farrell  
Peewee Division Coordinator 2009-10

## **Bantam Coordinator report by Hazel Wells**

The FYHA Bantam division registered 185 players for the 2009-2010 hockey season.

### Competitive

There were 3 Bantam Competitive teams this season. Two were listed as AA and one was listed as an A team.

Scheduling was done by an Oromocto representative this season.

Bantam Competitive players took place in an All Star game this February hosted by Oromocto.

### Recreational

Bantam had 8 recreational teams this year. The association went with an open draft this year and the teams were balanced compared to previous years, thanks to the volunteer coaches and evaluators at the beginning of the year.

Scheduling was done by Al Underhill this past season, a huge thank you to him for his time and effort that went into this as this is a process that can be a challenge with special events and lost ice times.

Bantam Recreational had 2 new sets of uniforms provided to us by the Bantam sponsor Scotiabank. We have 3 sets left to replace and then the entire division will be replaced. The Bantam Competitive Canucks also received new uniforms from their sponsor, Colpitts Developments.

Congratulations to the Scotia Bank Devils for taking home the gold in both our Christmas tournament and our Year end tournament.

Scotia Bank Oilers was the team who took home the "gold" in the Capital Invitational

I would like to thank the coaches and officials that made this year a great season for the kids and parents.

Thank You

FYHA Bantam Coordinator

Hazel Wells

## **Midget Coordinator report by Richard Vautour**

The FYHA Midget division registered 163 players for the 2009-2010 hockey season.

### **Competitive**

There was one Midget Competitive AA team. I think it was the best thing that we have done to have one comp team because we did complete the whole year and we made it to the provincials. It was the first time in five years that we have done that.

So hats off to the coaching staff for a great job.

Recommendation for 2010-2011 is to have a look at it again and may go with one AA team again. But if the numbers and talent are there, we will look at two teams.

### **Recreational**

The first thing is, we went with an open draft and it worked out very well. We had nine teams. Hats off to all the coaches for working together to ensure all teams were as balanced as possible. We did a really good job this year on player movement after the draft; it was reduced to a minimum this year. All teams had success in their tournaments across the province and outside of the province, a testament to the quality of coaching and recreational player commitment.

We had to deal with fewer suspensions this year which is a great job by the coaching staff.

I would like to congratulate the DKC Hurricanes for winning the FYHA Christmas tournament and the Canadians for the winning the FYHA Year-end tournament.

I really enjoyed being the Midget Coordinator and coaching. I would like to take this time to thank the Board Members, the coaches, and the officials for their help in allowing midget to have a successful 2009-2010 season.

Thank You  
FYHA  
Midget Coordinator  
Richard Vautour

## **Junior Coordinator report by Joe McSheffery**

### **New Junior B League**

The growth of Junior hockey in the province took a step forward this season with the start of the New Brunswick Junior B Hockey League (NBJHL). It consisted of three teams that were previously members of the New Brunswick Junior Hockey League (NBHJL): the Moncton Vitos, Grand Lake Wild, and Black's Harbour Silverkings. Two new teams also joined the league: the Tri-County River Cats and Saint John Ice Dawgs.

This left the NBJHL with six teams: the Shediac/Cap Pele Predators, Kent-Sud Flames, and Dieppe/Memramcook Voyageurs in the East Division; the Fredericton Falcons, Hampton Hurricanes, and expansion Nackawic Knights in the West. The Rogersville Castors in the East and the Western Valley Panthers in the West both took leaves of absence.

One of the main purposes of the Junior B league was to ensure NB was represented at the Don Johnson Cup. NB hadn't sent a team regularly to this tournament because, unlike the other Atlantic Provinces, it is held in the middle of university exams each year. This prevented teams from sending their best players so the NBJHL champion often chose to attend the Maritime-Northern Canadian Junior C Hockey Championship instead, which is usually held the first weekend of April.

### **Release of Players**

To support this growth in Junior hockey, the Falcons gave permission to any of their 2008-09 protected players who wanted to try out for Junior B. Seven players were eventually released as well as three others to Senior hockey. Combining this with four overage players who would not be returning, it meant 2009-10 was going to be a major rebuilding year for the Falcons.

### **Player Numbers Down**

Rebuilding wasn't easy because the number of players trying out for the Falcons dropped from 45 last year to about 12 in 2009-10. This was partly because the local Junior B teams were holding tryouts at the same time. A number of other Junior-age players came to tryouts but intended to play Senior hockey with their hometown teams.

Later on, some of the players who did not make Junior B decided not to play Junior hockey at all. This was partly due to the disappointment of not making one of the "top" teams and partly due to the fact the Junior B teams could provide benefits that the Falcons couldn't such as bus transportation to games.

As the number of players remained low, pre-season practices were converted to further tryouts and essentially anybody who wanted to play, with close to the required skill level, was rostered. As numbers increased gradually during the season, the focus shifted to adding players who would increase the skill level of the team significantly.

### **Out of Town Players**

Fortunately, five highly skilled veterans chose to remain with the team. Building on this core, the Falcons were able to attract enough other skilled players to be competitive. Even so, it took the effort of all team members to identify potential players, tell them about the league, and invite them out to take a look.

One player in particular invited seven friends from military families in Oromocto. This provided an unexpected life lesson for the Falcons - the fact that some of these players' parents were serving in Afghanistan. This went a long way towards keeping the season in perspective.

### **Financial Difficulties**

The fact that there were few players at tryouts meant that their fees did not cover the cost of ice-time. With attendance averaging 30 fans per game and few sponsors, traditionally NBJHL teams depend on player registration fees to operate. The reduced number of Falcons players during the regular season also meant that the cost of ice-time, officiating, and off-ice officials could not be covered. But because the Falcons had made a commitment to the league, because a core group of players had given up a chance to play Junior B in order to stay with the Falcons, and because the Falcons had been asked to host the Maritime-Northern Canadian Championship, a decision was made to keep operating.

### **Maritime-Northern Canadian Jr C Hockey Championship**

2010 being NB's turn to host the M-NC Championship, the Dieppe/Memramcook Voyageurs volunteered to host it. Sometime before the start of the season they withdrew this offer so the league had to find another host. No other team except the Falcons had ice-time that weekend so with the assurance of assistance from NB Junior Hockey Commissioner Bob Deap and the NBJHL, the Falcons agreed to host it.

Because of the unexpected affects of the new Junior B league on the Falcons, organizing for the Championship did not begin until January. It started slowly with Bob Deap, Rheel Bourque, and Joe McSheffery but wasn't long before members of the 2004 organizing committee (the last time Fredericton hosted it) and Bob Deap's hockey associates agreed to help out. Because a number of Falcons players were from out of town, few hockey parents could get involved. The committee members were:

1. Bob Deap: 2010 committee chairman & HNB Junior Hockey Commissioner.
2. Bernie Leger: president NBJHL.
3. Debra Connors: 2004 M-NC chairperson & board member Brendon Oreto Foundation.
4. Derryl Smith: president MJ AHL.
5. John Fila: board member Minto Sports Wall of Fame & retired manager NB Power.
6. Rheel Bourque: coach & G.M. of 2004 M-NC Champions Fredericton Rangers.
7. Rod Clark: vice-president MJ AHL & director HNB ROC # 3.
8. Ryck Bourgette: 2004 M-NC committee member & Regional Manager of Crombie REIT (including the former Fredericton Mall).
9. Perry & Christine Gillingham: Falcons parents & owners House Detective Home Inspections.
10. Tim & Stephanie Elliott: Falcons parents & managers Sumner Plumbing Fredericton.

11. Frank & Jacinthe Bourque: assistant coach & player parents of 2004 M-NC Champions Fredericton Rangers.
12. Joe McSheffery: G.M. Fredericton Jr Falcons.

The committee met weekly to prepare a budget, plan activities, and fundraise. In the end, approximately \$18,500.00 was raised which resulted in a small profit for the Falcons. This helped offset some of the losses encountered earlier in the season.

The teams attending the Championship were:

1. Shediac/Cap Pele Predators (NB).
2. Kivalliq Canucks (NU).
3. Tignish Aces (PEI).
4. Eastern Shore Mariners (NS).
5. Fredericton Falcons (Host).

The Eastern Shore Mariners won the Championship on April 11<sup>th</sup> with a 5-2 victory over the Shediac/Cap Pele Predators. The Falcons played some of their best hockey of the season but were eliminated after the round-robin. They beat the NB champion Shediac/Cap Pele 6-2 in their first game and lost two of their other three games by a goal so, all in all, it was a respectable showing considering how far they had come from the beginning of the season.

Joe McSheffery