

FREDERICTON YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16

Presented at the Annual General Meeting
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Adam Humphrey, Atom Division Manager
Mark MacFadzen, Peewee Division Manager
EMPLOYEE(S)
Jonathan Brown, General Manager
John McIntosh, Program Coordinator (UNB Internship September-December 2015)

PRESIDENTS REPORT BY JOHN SAUNDERS

During the last four years, we have continued to grow while other associations continue to decline.

As ice rates continue to climb, we strive to give the membership the best quality for their membership fees. With the York arena set to open in October 2016, we should be able to give our officials, coaches and players enough ice time for clinics.

RECOGNITION OF TEAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

I would like to acknowledge the following team accomplishments.

Recreational League Champions

<u>Christmas Championship</u>	<u>Year-End Championship</u>
Atom – FYHA AtomC Kings	Atom – FYHA AtomC Kings
Peewee – FYHA ND Kings	Peewee – FYHA ND Blues
Bantam – FYHA Scotiabank Flyers	Bantam – FYHA Scotiabank Blue Jackets
Midget - FYHA Kings	Midget – FYHA Bruins

Competitive Division

A big shout out goes to all competitive teams who qualified for provincials this year – Peewee A Kent Kanucks, Peewee B Coastal Graphics Ice Dogs, Bantam AA Nasis Lions Club Lions.

Congratulations to the Coastal Graphics Ice Dogs who brought home a silver medal from Peewee B division.

Also congrats to the Atom AA Lions who took home gold in District 3.

THANK YOU

I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to an amazing 2015-2016 Board; their tireless efforts and dedication to hockey is second to none...Well done folks!

I would also like to acknowledge all the coaches and managers; without their dedication to the kids, we wouldn't be able to have such a great league.

The rink managers, Dan Fradsham and Mike Bunguay deserve a lot of credit as well – A big thank you from FYHA!

2016 also marks the first ever outdoor Timbit Winter Classic. This was a huge success!

HNB also introduced for the first time a Suspensions Coordinator which in my opinion took a lot of time and stress away from the association.

STRENGTHS

We have a knowledgeable board and a great group of coaches and managers.

WEAKNESSES

With a large association, we can always use volunteers yearly. If you can spare a couple of hours throughout the winter months, it would be greatly encouraged and appreciated. Thank you.

CHALLENGES

- To offer more development clinics
- To offset the increasing cost of ice time
- To find a division sponsor for our Pee wee division

RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITIES

I would like to put out a big thanks to our various sponsors for their commitment to the Fredericton Hockey Community. Without your support, we would not be able to put a product on the ice or manage costs to allow kids or parents to participate.

RECOGNITION OF VOLUNTEERS

I would like to extend a huge thanks to the FYHA board membership for their hard work and dedication with special thanks going to Shelley Rickard and Tim Clark for their hard work on the board these past couple of year. I would also like to thank the coaches, managers, time keepers and families of those who have volunteered and have contributed to the success in teaching the kids not just how to play hockey but how to be a valuable part of the Fredericton Community. Your unselfish contribution was key to FYHA's success. I look forward to working with all of you in the future!

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT BY JONATHAN BROWN

As we turn the page on the 2015-16 season it is important to note that it takes extraordinary individuals to volunteer their time to youth sports. I would like to think that in one way or another all of our volunteers have positively impacted a child's life at some point this season. On behalf of the 2015-16 Board of Directors, I would like to thank all of our volunteers for developing skills in our youth that will be able to impact their life both on and off the ice.

TEAM REGISTRATION

<u>Division</u>	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Initiation	177	182	200
Novice	183	230	235
Atom	229	226	202
Peewee	185	167	173
Bantam	176	198	173
Midget	175	146	157
Juvenile	26	0	0

TOTAL 1151 1149 1140

BAUER FIRST SHIFT

The First Shift saw a huge success in its 2nd offering in FYHA. This program is geared towards those children ages 6-11 who have never had the opportunity to try hockey before. Participants pay \$200 dollars, receive 6-weeks of instruction, outfitted head to toe in new Bauer equipment and have the chance to continue after the first 6 weeks.

This year we had 50 kids registered in the program, 48 of which continued after Christmas, 27 of which were placed on teams (noted above.) We have applied to reoffer the program for the fall of 2016.

TOTAL REGISTRATION NUMBERS (INCLUDING FIRST SHIFT) – 1161

TOTAL FEMALE REGISTRATION NUMBERS (INCLUDING FIRST SHIFT) - 103 (97 Registered on Teams).

FYHA continues to provide various payment options through Visa, MasterCard or Interact online through Service New Brunswick. We also have provided in-office and portable debit terminals for payments at our in-house registration. FYHA Membership takes advantage of these options.

FUNDRAISING AND SPONSORSHIPS

I am very pleased to say that we had another successful season fundraising from the following events.

- **Rogers Hometown Hockey, Scotiabank Donation - \$15,000**
- **2015 Summer Hockey - \$8400**
- **2015 Checking Camp - \$1800**
- **Capital Invitational - \$5,000**
- **Y's Men Breakfast - \$1,000**

SPONSORSHIP NOTES

- **Fredericton Kia** partnered with FYHA as our Official Car Dealership for the 2015-16 season.
- **Dairy Queen** partnered with us to provide new uniforms to our PW Comp Team.
- **ET Mechanical** provided \$1000 dollars towards new uniforms for our PW Rec Division.
- **Scotiabank Community Hockey Program** provided \$3000 dollars towards our Bantam Rec Division
- **Tim Hortons** provided 3 new sets of uniforms and mini-sticks to all IP Players
- **McDonalds Atomc** program continues to be a hit and provides Atom players with new jerseys on a year-to-year basis
- **Nashwaaksis Lions Club** continues to be the title sponsor for our Capital Invitational.
- **Wendy's** continued its support for the Novice Jamboree and Novice Division.
- **Steven Clarke** (FYHA Novice Jamboree Chair) through **Enbridge Gas** helped secure a \$1000 dollar donation to our Novice Jamboree
- **Canadian Tire** continues to support our Novice Jamboree with donations and pricing rates.
- **Papa John's Pizza** reoffered fair play program.
- Huge Thank You goes out to our Division Sponsors from the Capital Invitational – **Fredericton Sports Investments, St. Mary's Entertainment and My Own Hero!**

Corporate Sponsors provide huge support to FYHA on a year to year basis. FYHA would like to thank the generosity of all of our sponsors.

Tim Hortons

Wendy's

Dairy Queen

McDonalds

Pita Pit

Papa John's

Dodge Caravan Kids

Swift's Oil Chance

Images by Nevin Magee

Kent Building Supplies

Nashwaaksis Y's Men

Nashwaaksis Lions Club

Northumberland Dairy

Allstate Insurance

Delta Fredericton

Enbridge Gas

Canadian Tire

ET Mechanical

Booster Juice

Costal Graphics

Scotiabank

Colpitts Developments

St. Mary's Entertainment

Fredericton Sports Investments

Fredricton Kia

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

FYHA would like to thank the following programs for helping kids participate in hockey who otherwise may not be able to afford registration:

- **Kid Sport New Brunswick**
- **Canadian Tire Jumpstart**
- **Brendon Oretto Foundation**
- **Mitch Clarke Sports for Kids Fund**
- **St. Mary's Entertainment Centre**

FYHA 2nd STAFF EVALUATION – First Shift Program Coordinator

This year we were once again provided a 2nd staff person, John McIntosh through the UNB Internship Program with the Faculty of Kinesiology.

John's primary responsibilities were FYHA registration and acting as the Program Administrator for the First Shift, handling all program registrations, volunteer recruitment, communications and managing the welcome event. John did an excellent job and I have provided positive references to several jobs he's applied for in the community.

I would recommend that in the future this position also include social media and branding. Young people are very educated on various social media platforms and may help increase association's exposure.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Hold a pre-season Coaching Panel session for all potential FYHA coaches. Identify expectations, specific skills and solutions for coaching minor hockey.
- Continue to offer clinics throughout the season to further train and educate our members.
- Establish committees for various items over the summer so they are in place prior to the start of the 2016-17 season – discipline, fundraising, special events, personnel, nominating, etc..
- Review the FYHA Constitution for the 2016-17 AGM.
- Identify proper grievance procedure with all teams and members at the first of the season.
- Add more admin profiles to our Facebook and Twitter accounts to establish better branding and generate more exposure.
- Further education to FYHA coaches and parents on the Hockey Canada LTPD Model.

THANK YOU

Again, I would like to thank all of our board members, parents, coaches, players and other volunteers who played a helping hand in having a successful 2015-16 season. It is my hope that FYHA as an organization continues to improve and meet the needs of our membership.

Yours in Hockey,



Jonathan Brown
General Manager
Fredericton Youth Hockey Assoc.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS ANNUAL REPORT

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the countless volunteers who put forth their time and knowledge to make FYHA such a success. Without you our organization would not be as successful as it is.

I also want to thank the coordinators, division managers, board members, your dedication and time commitment to the association in all capacities to ensure everyone has a successful minor hockey experience is very much appreciated.

Minor hockey has changed over the past 5 years. Players' expectation of development as well as our association's expectation has improved drastically. FYHA has taken upon themselves to put forth extensive development opportunities for its volunteers that help in the growth of our coaches and assistants to develop with the necessary skillsets to meet the demands of its members who want more than just to be able to play hockey. The vision of our current board is to grow the players understanding and development as well, compliment this growth with the growth of its coaches through mentorships and additional classroom and on ice sessions with qualified knowledgeable instructors. From what I have witnessed over the last couple of seasons, this vision is paying off greatly.

In the weeks following the end of March signifying FYHA year-end, I reflected on the positives and negatives that were presented this year particularly to ICETIME. I can say there were more positives than negatives this past season. Working directly with the City Rink managers on ice related issues was a positive. Dealing directly with these guys made for changes and additions in real-time no wait answers and constant communications made grabbing extra ice a breeze. The working relationship developed throughout the year made it very manageable. A big thank you to these guys for allowing this relationship to grow and I hope it continues moving forward.

As was the case in 2014-2015 season the 2015-2016 season presented itself with the continued closure of the York Arena and again the task working with the City Recreation staff to re-arrange ice allocations for FYHA and all other users of the ice facilities. In the end a draft Ice allocation was presented using the same model as the 2014-2015 season with some modifications. Again not ideal, but after a few weeks of re-working the hours assigned to FYHA we were able to make it work. A huge thank you to the division coordinators for recognizing the special events early and providing this information to the teams so they could plan their tournaments around these weekends where we lost huge hours of ice. By doing a stellar job running their divisions the holes were filled and teams at all age levels were able to maintain a steady flow of game and practice times. Again this year and in years past, Ice availability during the weekday evenings were limited; therefore, FYHA was heavy on the weekend ice time slots. This is and will always be the case because of the number of user groups within the city and the number of ice surfaces available.

Again having the right people in the right places at the right times enabled the association to be extremely proactive. The board was always informed of the ongoing within our organization on a daily basis. This was in large part to the Division Coordinators and Division Managers that were in place and who took it upon themselves to be actively available and oversee games of their division. This involvement by them made all participants aware that FYHA was there to address issues that came up immediately. This dedication has become a norm for our board members and volunteers and will be so for years to come.

HNB started the year off with introducing a centralized discipline chairman. The idea was that this sole

person would be handling all HNB Minimum standards of discipline required from all sanctioned games played in NB Minor Hockey Associations. I personally was a skeptic at first because of the enormous scale of games that are played each week at the different levels, but I am happy to say this individual went above and beyond and performed his duties with little issues to the associations. Hats off to this initiative!

As made public last year the fall of 2016 should bring the York Arena back online. This should give us more prime ice availability than in past couple of years. My hope is that it becomes a reality this year so we can work out additional hours of ice from Monday thru Thursday. This additional ice will help in the overload we have currently had on Saturday and give FYHA a balanced schedule. All we can do is hope and wait for this project to be completed.

Last year the city has put forth an increase in hourly rates for all users of city ice surfaces. The increase was \$17/hour. This may seem minimal but in our case where we purchase around 120 hours a week this increase was substantial. One drastic change we made this year was to purchase our rentals in actual 1 hour or 1.15 hour slots. This made a positive change to FYHA for billing purposes. In years past we were assigned blocks of ice which included flood times. We realized last year that floods are included in our hourly rate so we began renting our ice with the exact required time per 1.0 or 1.15 hour intervals. This was a savings to the association and will be used again moving forward.

In the past few years we had increases from the city in the hourly rates and have managed to keep our registration amounts the same. But last year the increase was too much for FYHA to absorb and a slight increase was necessary.

Overall the role of Director of Operations has been very interesting at times and overall rewarding. In this capacity I have been able to input my ideas towards what works and what does not for the association. I currently have no children in FYHA but I am actively involved as Coach at the Midget Comp level. I do this job with no personal agenda just for the love of hockey. This unselfishness and the drive to make the association welcoming and fair to all members is the same I see from others who are on the board. We all are doing this for the betterment of membership only!

In closing thank you for allowing me the opportunity to be part of such a great association and just to say I will be re-offering as Dir of Operations for the 2016-2017 FYHA Hockey season.

Yours in Hockey,
Alan Underhill
FYHA Director of Operations

DIRECTOR OF COACHING & DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL REPORT

Introduction:

As the FYHA Director of Coaching & Development, I would like to thank all of our FYHA volunteers this past season that helped our young hockey players develop in a fun and safe environment. Coaches have the greatest influence on a young player's hockey experience and their commitment to providing a fun and safe hockey environment, contributed greatly to our success again this season. Also, team managers, division coordinators and on-ice helpers worked diligently to ensure our leagues operated effectively given some significant challenges with scheduling and ice availability.

Coaching Certifications:

To maintain our commitment to complying with coach certification requirements, the FYHA continued its focus on ensuring all coaches and volunteers met the minimum standards. Again, our goal was to ensure all our coaching staff had or achieved the required certifications prior to the December 15, 2015 deadline.

HNB supported our association by directing two "Hockey Canada Coach 2" certification courses in a classroom setting for 37 of our coaches and bench staff.

In addition to these certifications, we had 74 FYHA coaches or volunteers successfully complete the on-line version of Speak-Out called "Hockey Canada Respect-In-Sport", and another 8 completed "Hockey Canada Safety" bringing the total number of certifications completed to 119 for 2015-16. As a result, it will be easier going forward to comply with HNB directives regarding coaching certifications and to retain coaches and encourage further development.

Once again, the FYHA made it very clear to our membership that to volunteer with our association you must formally apply through the Volunteer Application process. Criminal background checks are required every 3 years for all our volunteers. This year, many of these background checks were due for returning coaches, however, we received almost 100% compliance to our request to provide a new one. The FYHA, along with HNB will continue to monitor closely to ensure all our coaches and bench staff are properly certified and have met the requirements outlined. The FYHA will also continue to support any individual that meets the requirements and wants to volunteer and become certified.

Coach Selection Process:

Prior to the start of the 2015-2016 season, the FYHA received close to 200 coaching applications for various divisions. Volunteer Applications and Criminal Background Checks were received by the General Manager prior to the start of the season and certification credentials were verified. The coach selection committee comprised of the FYHA Director of Coaching, Vice-President, General Manager and Director of Operations met to initially select the Head Coaches for each division based on the volunteer application & certification requirements being met, coaching experience, and previous disciplinary infractions or incidents. Division Coordinators were given an opportunity to provide input into the selection process as well. Applications for several assistant coaches team managers and bench staff were submitted for approval in a second phase of the selection process and that resulted in another several assistant coaches and other volunteers (managers/bench staff) being approved. This brought the total to 285 volunteers for the 2015-16 season.

Development Initiatives:

Bauer First Shift Program – 50 "new to hockey players" participated in a program for players aged 6-10 interested in trying the sport of hockey with the option of joining the FYHA recreational programs after

the 6 ice-sessions. Thanks goes out to Hockey Canada, Bauer Canada and the City of Fredericton for sponsoring and subsidizing this well-organized program. Also, thank you to FYHA GM Jonathan Brown and John McIntosh for coordinating the administration of this and to Rob Allaby and Darren Shakotko for leading the on-ice sessions with 10 other volunteers. This program was a great success and we are waiting to see if we are approved to participate again next season.

Goalie Skill Development Sessions – Again this season, Eric Pye lead regular goalie skill development clinics for FYHA goalies

Atom – Bantam Defence Skills Clinics – Lead by Darren Shakotko, provided skills sessions open for Atom to Bantam players. This was offered on various occasions when extra ice was available.

HNB Initiation Jamborees – New program offered through Hockey NB, led by Nick Boudreau and Mike Gillingham. The Program focused on developing the active start portion of the Hockey Canada LTPD focusing on small area skill development drills and cross ice games.

Overall Assessment:

The 2015-2016 season was successful for our association in terms of coach development and the number of volunteers (285) that participated. Also, there were some very positive reports sent by our membership about our coaches and some good stories that exemplify the commitment and leadership qualities of the majority of our coaches.

Our coaching group this season included several younger coaches that are not parents but had a desire to coach minor hockey. These individuals performed very well and as an association, we recognize the benefits of attracting and retaining more of these coaches in the future.

Coach Evaluation Survey:

At the end of the season, the FYHA General Manager developed and made available a web based evaluation survey to our membership to provide feedback to the association about the coaching as it pertains to the hockey experience over the season. This survey tool allows our membership access to a more user-friendly means to provide the association with feedback. This year we received a response rate of about 40% which is the highest it has ever been. Overall, the results were very positive and we received some good feedback we will utilize going forward.

Next Season:

Again, we have listened to feedback from our coaches and membership and for the upcoming season. Here are some of the key areas we will be focusing on next season in terms of coaching and development:

- We will be hosting a “Pre-season Coaches Meeting” shortly after registration to provide important information to our new and returning FYHA coaches. We have done this in the past with the IP coaching group but recognize the need to do this for our other divisions. We will be including a “coaches roundtable” as part of this session to hear from some experienced hockey coaches and how they address various aspects of coaching minor hockey.
- We will be making some minor adjustments to our Coach Selection Process – including an interview process, if deemed necessary, for qualified head coach applicants at the competitive level
- Development Weekend – 1st weekend in November- We were unable to provide a very good program this past year due to the scheduling issues with special events held in the city on this

weekend. We will strive to get this back to its award winning status for next season. This is a great opportunity to provide developmental opportunities for players and coaches specifically in areas that don't always get the attention they need in regular practices or coaching clinics.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Please note: As we are currently in the process of having our 2015-16 audit completed and ensuring any late transactions are recorded, references in this report are preliminary and subject to change. Final numbers and audited financial statement will be made available upon request at a later date.

Another busy and exciting hockey season has come to an end. Through the efforts of many dedicated and hard working volunteers, this year the FYHA has finished the season with a small surplus. Some factors contributing to this are the generosity of our corporate sponsors. Through their donations we have been able to replace equipment and provide development to our members. In a time where the economy is slow we cannot express our thanks enough to those that are able to support our Association.

Our membership has continued to grow and personally I think that is wonderful! Our overall expenses have reflected that increase as well. The goal for the coming year will continue to be making sure we monitor our spending and provide the best for our members. One major challenge over the years has been to manage our ice time with the City of Fredericton and monitor the hourly rate charges. Our biggest expense is ice rental. This year we spent over \$338,000.00 on ice rental. We were faced with an increase but with determination and working closely with the City staff we were able to ensure the accuracy of our invoices. These were approved by the Director of Operations prior to any payments being issued. I wish to thank those at the City of Fredericton office for the information they provided when necessary. I look forward to working with them again in the season to come.

Unfortunately this year we were not able to offer the Frozen Faceoff tournament but with our Summer Hockey Program, Checking Camp, the Capital Tournament, the Novice Jamboree and the Timbit Jamboree we were able to raise funds and create some wonderful memories.

Maintaining the financial records and being held accountable is not always the most fun job. The accounting records of the FYHA are available upon request at any time. Acting as Treasurer of the FYHA has allowed me to stay involved in the hockey world that I so much enjoy. Our General Manager, Jonathan Brown, makes my job easier by always being there whenever something is needed. Being part of the FYHA and seeing the good things that are being accomplished by the volunteers for the kids is really wonderful. Overall we've had a very successful year and I look forward to returning next season as Treasurer for the FYHA.

Sincerely,

Nancy DiDiodato
FYHA Treasurer

DIRECTOR OF PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

The following items were purchased this season out of FYHA's budget:

- Socks - \$8352.00
- Uniforms - \$3747.70
- Bags, Pucks and Coaches Boards - \$3688.00

Total - \$20,040.49

We received the following donations for uniforms:

- McDonalds – 9 sets for Atom Rec
- Tim Hortons – 3 Sets for IP
- Dairy Queen – 1 set for PW Comp
- ET Mechanical – 1 set for PW Rec
- Bantam Rec – 1 set from Scotiabank

Total Sponsorship Money Collected for Equipment - \$5460.54

Next Season

Requesting a budget of \$25,000 dollars. Increased due to help offset the costs of adding 2 juvenile teams in FYHA next season.

Thanks,

Raymond Curtis
Director of Property and Equipment

TIMBIT COORDINATOR REPORT

This year, 200 players were registered in the Initiation Program (IP/Timbits) with FYHA. We had 18 more players registered this season compared to last year. This winter we were fortunate to have 53 volunteer coaches supporting FYHA's youngest players.

The approach to IP practices and games this year were conducted much the same as in past years with the focus on "fun"amentals in both weekday practices and Saturday games.

Ice Time:

IP was given 10 ice times per week, each being one hour in length giving each team two hours a week on the ice. In November and December we lost a bit more ice than normal due to the high demand of City Special Events. That being said I feel due to the early morning Saturday times we lost much less than other divisions.

Teams:

We had a record number of teams this season, for a total of 20! All the team's averaging 10 players. Having smaller teams and lots of volunteers gave a higher coach to player ratio, resulting in a more hands on approach.

IP Minor consisted of 10 teams of 4&5 year olds.

IP Major consisted of 10 teams of 6 year olds.

As in the past all Minor teams only played and practiced with other Minor teams and Major only played and practiced with other Major teams. This allows the Minors to progress and improve significantly throughout the season without the frustrations that were experienced in years past (prior to division separation). It also allows the 6 year olds to practice more advanced drills that will aid them in the transition to Novice.

Goalies:

In the last couple of months of the season we introduced goalie equipment to the IP Major group during practice time. This was met with great enthusiasm from all! I feel in having the kid's try the equipment in IP will alleviate some of the fear of wearing it in Novice games and in time hopefully encourage new long term goalies.

Jersey's and socks:

We received 3 new sets of Jersey's this season from Tim Hortons and FYHA purchased 5 new sets of socks.

Bauer First Shift:

We had 6 First Shift kids join our teams after Christmas; the transition was met with no issues. I made plans at the beginning of the season to accommodate the First Shift players, which eliminated the problems we encountered in the 2014/2015 season.

1st Annual Mitch Clarke Timbit Winter Classic:

In trying something new this season, I came up with the **1st Annual Mitch Clarke Timbit Winter Classic** which replaced our regular Timbit Jamboree.

The Classic took place February 19-21 at the Mitch Clarke Park. It consisted of all our teams playing 3

games each for a total of 60 games played over the course of the weekend. All teams got to participate in a pizza and Taekwondo party which was held and hosted at TG Roys.

I had many volunteers help with this event and partnerships were formed in order to ensure success. The City of Fredericton and Fredericton Business North played a vital role in the event by donating the ice for the weekend, clearing snow, running the zamboni, bringing in bleachers, picnic tables and so much more. Tim Horton's donated hot chocolate and Sidney Crosby mini sticks and ball for all the players, Fredericton Soccer donated a tent, Advanced Fabric donated a heater, Elliot McCrea Hill and FBN purchased the banners and commemorative pucks- for all the players and sponsors, Canadian Tire donated a bike, Nassis Bowl-a-Drome donated Gift Certificates, and Shoppers Drug Mart donated bottled water.

Cash donations were received from the following:

Front Gate Financial- 250.00

Fredericton Mitsubishi – 100.00

Jim Gilberts- 100.00

Special thanks and recognition goes to Andrew McGuire, who was involved from start to finish and gave many hours of help, Christa Reynolds and Robin Ferdinand who both played vital roles in the preparation of the event.

The City of Fredericton has expressed interest in having the Classic be part of Winter Fest next year, I feel like this would be a fantastic idea. I have many plans for growing this event and look forward to working on it next season.

Closing remarks:

I would like to thank all my volunteer coaches; the program is a success because of you. Heartfelt thanks go to all the Timbit parents for always being understanding, patient and great role models for your kids. Thank you to all the Timbit skaters, for always bringing smiles and hard work to all your ice times. This has been such a memorable season for me and I can't wait to see what next season brings.

Yours in hockey,
Sylvia Plume
IP Coordinator

NOVICE COORDINATOR REPORT

- 235 players were registered for Novice and were spread across 14 teams.
- 4 Major groups and 3 Minor groups.
- 20 of the Novice players were female.
- First Shift graduates added 4 Major players and 11 Minor to our teams in December. Our Minor groups were already quite full, so it was challenging to fit the players in but the coaches were very accommodating in making it happen.

Each of the 7 groups had a “group leader” - we were very fortunate in Novice to have 7 experienced coaches to take the lead. There were lots of challenges trying to accommodate everyone’s requests, but we ended up with relatively balanced teams in Novice Major by the end of the season... Novice Minor ended up with 2 teams being quite a bit stronger than the other 4, mainly because we accommodated a lot of requests and had minimal knowledge of the level of the players coming out of Timbits. People were most concerned about the early weekend morning times (6 of 10 weekend times were 7am or earlier), but we had minimal cancellations because of the early times.

Goalie gear was provided to all teams and everyone was offered the opportunity to play goalie if interested.

We ended with a very successful Jamboree weekend- the Jackson Leith Wright Memorial. On top of the 14 FYHA teams, we had 4 Minor & 4 Major teams from out of town- 10 Minor teams and 12 Major teams. Both divisions played full ice with referees. Steve Clarke stepped in as Jamboree Chairperson and was amazing- organizing the Memorial Game, gathering sponsors for the POG shirts & memorial fund, spending all day Saturday turning over pizza parties for 22 team of Novice players were just a few of the many tasks Steve took care of- thanks so much to Steve for stepping in and helping out! Thank you also to the many other volunteers, especially Sylvia Plume for ordering the pizza and gathering & storing the prizes.

Concerns

1. The 4pm/4:15pm ice times were challenging to get people to commit to.
2. We lost a lot of Friday ice times because of Special Events
3. Penalties where players did not go in the penalty box were somewhat ineffective and did not discourage rule breaking- potential for injuries & bad habits are created.
4. Impossible to accommodate all of the requests, which left some upset
5. In some instances, groups of coaches stuck together when splitting teams and one team ended up with stronger players and more experienced coaches- would be nice to have had even teams within the groups.
6. Novice Minor teams had too many players, and addition of First Shift players made it even more crowded (Minor had 19-20 per teams- when everyone was there for games it was 4 lines- minimal playing time)

Recommendations

1. Aim for later start times if possible- 4:30pm at the earliest.
2. Have an extra floating time available for Timbits/Novice to share in case of cancellations (can be filled in with skills sessions when available)
3. In Novice Major, consider a penalty shot for each penalty, then continue to play 5 on 5. (Ashfield & Clarke recommendation carried forward)
4. Encourage players & coaches to stick with initial group assignments- players will benefit from being exposed to more teammates & coaches.

5. Coordinator should be a part of team/coach division within groups. Player evaluations were done at the completion of 2015-2016 and will be shared with incoming coordinator ahead of time.
6. Try to stick with max 15 per team at the start of the season to allow for additional First Shift players so we can keep teams under 17 players as per FYHA Policies and Procedures.

Overall it was a very successful year. The Novice players were very lucky to have such experienced, dedicated coaches. Thanks to Jon Brown & all of the FYHA Board Members for volunteering endless hours to provide the opportunity for the Fredericton & area children to play hockey.

**Robin Ferdinand,
Novice Coordinator**

ATOM COORDINATOR REPORT

Thank you to all of the individuals who volunteered in the Atom Division this season. Without your time and energy FYHA would not be able to provide a hockey program to our players. Another thank you to Papa Johns for continuing to promote sportsmanship through the “penalty free pizza” program.

The Lions and Blizzards faced off in the “Best of Three” AA Final. The Lions came out on top in an exciting 3-2 shootout victory to win the District 3 AA Championship.

In the Rec division, the Kings struck Gold in the Christmas tournament with the Senators taking Silver and the Wild snagging Bronze. For FYHA's year-end tournament, the Kings again took the Gold, with the Wings earning Silver and the Senators taking the Bronze.

The Hockey New Brunswick Development Weekend was missed this year due to scheduling conflicts with the Buster Harvey Tournament and Rogers Hometown Hockey. Player and coach development is crucial to the long term development model embraced by Hockey Canada and FYHA. The Atom Division did not have any on ice nor off ice development sessions for neither players nor coaches. All efforts should be made to ensure that ice time is available to FYHA during the weekend that Hockey Development is scheduled.

Ice allocations for the division in both Rec and Comp levels fell within or exceeded FYHA's guidelines. There were 8 Recreational teams who each received 51-54 ice times including 27-30 games and 23-24 practices. Overall the number of ice times received by each Rec team was excellent. However, scheduling was problematic in that over 50% of Atom Rec's ice was allotted to Saturdays at Willie O'Ree. This was unfortunate as every time a special event occurred at Willie O'Ree on a Saturday Atom Rec lost over half of its weekly ice. While efforts were successful in finding replacement ice having the division's ice spread out would greatly alleviate the issue of rescheduling ice “lost” to special events.

The player evaluation and team drafting process for both Rec and Comp must be revisited to ensure team parity and a fair evaluation process. The current system is consistently producing uneven teams and evaluation of coach's children is problematic at both levels. There are several associations that employ superior evaluation and team creation models that FYHA could easily adopt or use as a reference. Ensuring team parity and a fair and transparent evaluation process should be made a top priority for FYHA going forward.

Finally, officiating was a concern of many coaches and parents. The issue was the use of inexperienced and young officials and often only two officials were present per game. It is highly recommended that a senior official be paired with one or two inexperienced officials to ensure games remain under control and the younger officials are permitted to develop under the watch of seasoned officials and without undue pressure.

Again, thank you to all of the coaches and volunteers. Your contribution is invaluable.

Andrew McGuire

PEEWEE COORDINATOR REPORT

Thanks to all volunteers, coaches, assistant coaches, managers, parents and supporters of Peewee hockey this year. A lot of work goes into Minor Hockey each season and it is a group effort.

The Draft at both the Competitive and Recreational levels went reasonably well, resulting in 3 competitive teams and 8 recreational teams.

Rec Division

A list of previous year draft from Atom 2nd year players and Peewee 1st year players should be issued to all coaches to help in the evaluation process and eventual draft. Some coaches are rookies and are unfamiliar with players who have played. This would make the evaluation process a bit easier and increase the speed of draft.

I believe an experiment should take place in one division, either Atom or Peewee, where a blind draft takes place. All coaches pick a team, then swaps are made to fit their requirements. They don't even pick their kids, coaches pick players based on best information. Once completed, swaps are made, due to request, coaches, managers, etc.. for round 1 to round 1, etc. Coaches all will ensure players are drafted as closely to their actual ranking as possible. You could even do a mock draft at Peewee to experiment with how coaches react post evaluation. Mark MacFadzen would be willing to lead this process.

The main issue with the Rec division this year was the constant ice time changes due to conflicts from late timing in teams special events, request from teams to make adjustments due to special needs, and a few minor division conflicts. The ice scheduler made attempts to communicate with all team representatives to be conscious of the changes that would take place. As the year progressed we only put out two weeks of ice at a time (not a goal we had foreseen, but a safety net due to unexpected changes). If ice allocation stays the same for next year, we expect to only improve on extending, with confidence, a longer template of a schedule. The balance of ice was greatly improved from 2015/16 and it was noticed by parents returning for the second year. All teams finished with over 54 ice times for the year, not including ice in our pre schedule release. Thanks to AI for quick responses and help in confirming ice...greatly appreciated.

We had some coach conflicts, which stemmed from perceived player ice allocation, unwarranted player aggressiveness, and the normal challenges with young referees.

We received suggestions for next season

- 1) More of a mix of older referees for younger referees to learn from, especially early and just before any play-off's begin. Players and some coaches may have developed bad habits which manifest themselves more at the season lengthens.
- 2) Development of referees to be more confidence in dealing with high emotion adults, bench, and off ice.
- 3) FYHA representatives share in going to more games and make themselves known to coaches and players, so they are aware they are attending their games.
- 4) FYHA co-ordinators or representatives meeting with coaches and their staff, to review expectations and how to handle emotional outbursts from parents and or opposing coaches.
- 5) Review of highly ranked player/s to potentially move to higher division to help keep teams balanced and reduce pressure on young players that parents will target for negative comments.

The successful year end tournament saw the Peewee Blues taking home the Gold, Peewee Capitals the Silver, Peewee Kings the Bronze, and the Peewee Canadians finishing in a very close 4th place.

ET Mechanical finished their March break by bringing home Gold from the Robert Purdy Memorial Tournament in Saint John.

Competitive Division

The competitive division regarding the draft: The only issue that was brought to our attention was that of the potential unfair scoring of certain players to either increase or decrease the round in which they are selected providing potential unfair advantages to certain teams. A suggestion was brought forth by coaches to have players evaluated by coaches from another division. Coaches would still be more than welcome to attend the sessions by either watching from the stands or being on the benches for evaluation games. This would allow them to properly prepare themselves without personally having an impact on the evaluation scores.

Ice times for the competitive division: Ice times were increased substantially from the 2014-15 to the 2015-16 season. The district scheduler has expressed his gratitude to FYHA and its volunteers for all of their hard work. Each of the three competitive teams maintained a consistent schedule of 1 morning and 1 evening practice during the week, and additional ice times were issued each weekend providing the teams 1 additional practice/exhibition game per week. Each of the 3 teams also played 24 games throughout the season. This all totalled to 85-90 ice times per team this season not including tournaments or evaluations.

Two of the three competitive teams represented our area at provincials, 1 team in A and one in B. The Coastal Graphics Ice Dogs brought home silver in the B division, and The Kent Kanucks lost a hard fought battle in the Semi Finals of the A division.

This season also saw the Kent Kanucks bring home the banner from the Rob Gullison Memorial Tournament.

Overall, with a few challenges, the peewee division was a pleasure to coordinate. Seeing the improvement in the level of play over the season, as well as the smiles on the players faces as they enter the rinks, proves that we have a fantastic group of coaches and volunteers.

Thank you,

Christa Reynolds
Peewee Coordinator

BANTAM COORDINATOR REPORT

Thank you to the many volunteers who contributed to this year's Bantam Division. The work of these dedicated coaches, assistant coaches and managers was reflected on how well this season went. The evaluation and drafting process for this year's Bantam Competitive teams as well as Recreational teams proved to be the most successful as we resulted in three equal competitive teams and eight equal recreational teams.

RECREATIONAL

This year we had eight rec teams. Each team had three games to one practice ratio that was scheduled as evenly as possible around each team's away games and tournaments. Each team played between 23-24 regular season games; this number does not include exhibition games between teams in our league due to extra ice or teams being away, it also does not include the Christmas playoff tournament or the Year end tournament.

Every team was given at least one full ice slot to use as they liked for practice/exhibition game or invite outside teams for an exhibition game.

Many of the eight teams competed very well in their tournaments winning gold and silver. The FYHA Christmas playoffs witnessed the Flyers take first place over the Canadians in an OT victory. This led the Flyers playing a best of three game series against the Stanley Bulldogs for the C Zones and the chance to play at provincials.

At the FYHA Year-End playoffs, the Blue Jackets took home the gold with the Sharks claiming silver and the Canadians were proud recipients of the bronze. Fourth placed team was the Flyers. All in all this was a great season for the Rec division.

COMPETITIVE

The FYHA Bantam Competitive division had a very successful season in 2015-2016. Each team was drafted very evenly and competed very well against each other. There were 6 teams in the district including three Fredericton teams. This year each team had 15 regular season games with a 5 game per team round robin district playoff which showed Colpitts Canucks and York North fighting it out in a best of 3 series for the District 3 banner. The results of this were the Canucks lost game three in a shootout! Great work Canucks!

Teams had about 40 regular practices (including a weekly 6am). These numbers do not include any tournament play that the teams attended as well as any "extra" ice that was given out.

At the beginning of the season District 3 announced that it would divide the league into AA, A and B by the end of regular season play which was February 12th. Based on the standings after regular season was completed, the top team in the division would be AA, second would be A and third would be B. All three Fredericton teams placed and went to Zones. The Swifty Caps and Colpitts Canucks both were able to attend the B zones which were hosted in Stanley and the Lions would finish as AA and attend the provincials. Well done teams.

In conclusion this was a great season that I had the privilege to be coordinator for. Everything for the most part ran very smoothly.

At this time I would like to submit my resignation as Bantam Coordinator. I will step away from the coordination role for the FYHA and let someone else experience all there is in this position. Thank you to all the coaches and parents that I have had the privilege of working with over the last 4 years, I have made some amazing and lifelong connections.

Have a great summer and all the best to the 2016/2017 FYHA board members.

Bantam Coordinator
Heidi Boulter

MIDGET DIVISION ANNUAL REPORT

I would like thanks all the coaches, players, parents, officials and countless volunteers that have made for a successful hockey season. Without your participation and continuous efforts this season, our hockey season would not have been possible.

This past season, the Midget Division had 9 teams: 1- Competitive Team (Midget AA) and 8 – Recreational Teams.

Competitive

The Nashwaaksis Lion Club Midget Lions hockey team was picked from 41 Players and 10 goaltenders. The team selection was completed by 26 October 2015 with the cooperation of the Fredericton area high school and Midget AAA Development teams.

The Nashwaaksis Lion Club Midget Lions were ranked as a Midget AA team and finished 5th Central Midget Hockey year end tournament. The team's AA ranking is an improvement over the previous season team's ranking.

Congratulations to the coaches (Alan Underhill, Dwight Ganong, Brian Whitters, and Craig Gagnong) and the Lions players on a successful season: Contributing to a successful season was team manager (Bonny Harvey).

Looking forward to the next season, I expect a similar number of players will try out for Midget Competitive.

Recreational

Midget Recreational Division (Recreational Division) had 8 teams made of 136 players, 14 goaltenders, 5 Bantam Affiliates, and 29 coaches / managers. There were fewer Bantam Affiliates due in large part to the larger number of players drafted by each team (up from 16 to 19 players). The cross city draft was held on 27 October 2015. After the draft, each team had 17 players (except for 3 teams) and all teams but 3 teams had 2 goaltenders.

The Recreational Division's regular season and tournament play was very competitive with each game's outcome on any given night being very much an unknown: I give credit to the coaches for their preparation for the draft and the drafting of their teams. During the evaluation phase, both the coaches and independent evaluators were used to evaluate players and those combined results were used to prepare the draft list order.

All Recreational Division teams had on average 2 to 3 practice ice times in addition to the Hockey New Brunswick Development Weekend sessions. For next season, I would recommend that FYHA seek out a special event for the Midget aged players during Hockey New Brunswick Development Weekend Midget sessions.

The FYHA Midget Kings were the winner of the FYHA Christmas Tournament. The King played off in a best of the three game formats against the Stanley Bulldogs. Stanley Bulldogs were successful in advancing as the zone representative.

The Recreational Division Year End Tournament was very competitive with all teams playing very good hockey and a great demonstration of team play. The Scotiabank Bruins were the gold medal winners of the year end tournament. Congratulations to Raymond Curtis, Jim Melanson, Tom White and the Bruins players on your Gold Medal performance.

FYHA Tournament Results Summary

Christmas Tournament		Year End Tournament	
1 st	FYHA Midget Kings	1 st	Scotiabank Bruins
2 nd	Y's Men Canadians	2 nd	Y's Men Canadians
3 rd	Scotiabank Bruins	3 rd	Coast Tire Capitals
4 th	Coast Tire Capitals	4 th	Alden's Maple Leafs

Player Safety

Player safety was improved this season through the efforts of a great set of coaches, the use of a four man officiating system using senior officials for all Recreational Division games, and an earlier start date for the use of "Return to Play Agreements". This season's number of suspensions and minor penalties assessed was up from the previous hockey season: the severity of penalties leading to suspensions was down. For the next hockey season, I believe that it will be important to continue with attracting great coaches and the Player Safety measures introduced this season.

Year-End Coaches Meeting

A coach's meeting was held in the Community Room at Willie O'Ree for this season's Midget Division coaches and 2nd year Bantam coaches. This meeting included a review of the past season, areas for improvement for the next hockey season, discussion of what it is like to coach at the Midget Recreational level, and questions and answers session between Bantam and Midget coaches. Those in attendance suggested the number of players per team be reduced back to previous season number (16 to 17 players), change how the FYHA representative is selected for district play down, explore the possibility of FYHA representative advancing directly to provincials, and looking into working with FMHOA to find ways to improve the officiating in Fredericton.

Celebrations

At the end of this season, the following coaches will leave FYHA ending their FYHA coaching career:

Coach	2015-16 Midget Team
Clint Symonds	Y's Men Canadians
Jim Tree	FYHA Midget Flames
Joe Baird	Kent Midget Kanucks
Kevin Mackay	Y's Men Canadians
Mike McDonald	Adlen's Maple Leafs
Ronnie Price	FYHA Midget Flames
Tom White	Scotiabank Midget Bruins

Thanks to all these coaches for all your coaching efforts during your coaching career with FYHA. You will be missed on the team benches next season.

At the end of this hockey season, the following players will end their minor hockey careers with FYHA:

Player	2015-16 Team	Player	2015-16 Team
ADAM CONNOLLY	Y's Men Canadians	ALEC BAIRD	Kent Canucks
ALEX TREE	FYHA Midget Flames	ALLAN MCDONALD	Alden's Maple Leafs
ANTHONY CHRISTIE	FYHA Midget Kings	BEN ENGLEHART	Y's Men Canadians
BRAEDEN ROGERS	Kent Canucks	BRAYDON SCAMMELL	Alden's Maple Leafs
BRENDAN JOLICOEUR	Scotiabank Bruins	CAINE WILCOX	Coast Tire Capitals
CALEB LEIGHTON	Nashwaaksis Lions Club Midget AA Lions	CALVIN ROSS	Y's Men Canadians
CHANWOO PARK	Alden's Maple Leafs	CHAZ HARVEY	Nashwaaksis Lions Club Midget AA Lions
DANA HAMM- CAMERON	Coast Tire Capitals	DANIEL MAHER	Kent Canucks
DESMOND SAMPSON	Y's Men Canadians	EVAN MOREHOUSE	FYHA Midget Sabres
HAMISH WRIGHT	Y's Men Canadians	IAN MACDONALD	FYHA Midget Flames
JACK MILES	FYHA Midget Flames	JACOB PATTERSON	Scotiabank Bruins
JASPER KRISTMANSON	FYHA Midget Flames	JINWON JANG	Kent Canucks
JOHN WHITTERS	Nashwaaksis Lions Club Midget AA Lions	JONAH ROY	Kent Canucks
JORDAN BARTLETT	Nashwaaksis Lions Club Midget AA Lions	JORDAN SCHOLTEN	Coast Tire Capitals
KALUM MACKAY	Y's Men Canadians	KIERAN VALK	FYHA Midget Flames
LUKE BURTON	Scotiabank Bruins	MALEKI HANSEN	Y's Men Canadians
MATT FEARNELEY	Nashwaaksis Lions Club Midget AA Lions	MATT STEPHENS	Nashwaaksis Lions Club Midget AA Lions
MATTHEW PEPPARD	Scotiabank Bruins	MICHAEL BLAKELY	Y's Men Canadians
MICHAEL MUNN	Alden's Maple Leafs	REILLY DYMENT	FYHA Midget Kings
RYAN CURTIS	Scotiabank Bruins	RYAN KELLY	Nashwaaksis Lions Club Midget AA Lions
RYAN MCCLARE	FYHA Midget Sabres	RYAN SPRAGUE	FYHA Midget Flames
SAMUEL WRIGHT	Y's Men Canadians	THOMAS HENDRICK	Y's Men Canadians
THOMAS RIPLEY	FYHA Midget Flames	TREVOR PRICE	FYHA Midget Flames
TY ALLEN	Alden's Maple Leafs	TYLER SCAMMELL	Alden's Maple Leafs
TYLER SCOTT	Kent Canucks	ZACH SYMONDS	Y's Men Canadians

A Celebration / Recognition event for Third Year players was held in the community room at the Grant Harvey Center. There was a great turnout of players, coaches, parents and hockey fans that contributed to a great send off for these third year players. Each player received a personalized wooden plaque to commemorate their achievement. Good luck to players in the next chapter of your life and hockey life, wherever that may be.

I would like to recognize FYHA's Operations Manager for all this efforts in assigning ice times for all divisions including the Midget Division. With the closure of the York Arena and increased demand for ice usage within the city, Alan was challenged to provide all divisions and teams with their preferred ice times. I'm looking forward to next season when the York Arena is scheduled to re-open. Thanks Alan for all your efforts.

In conclusion, I enjoyed the Midget Division Coordinator role this season. My goal for this past season was to provide all registered Midget aged players the opportunity to play and enjoy hockey in a safe and enjoyable setting. For the most part, I think I achieved my goal. For the next season, I would like to build on the successes of this season and to work on areas needing improvement such as promoting respect for game, players, coaches, opposing team and the officials.

I plan to return as Midget Division Coordinator for the next hockey season (2016-17) and I'm hoping to recruit a Division Manager to assist me with the operation of the Midget Division.

Yours in Hockey,
Steven Meade
2015-16 FYHA Midget Division Coordinator