

BALL HOCKEY UPDATE

Official Newsletter of Ball Hockey Edmonton

Men's Issue #1

April - 2013

FROM THE LEAGUE PRESIDENT...

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to the 2013 ball hockey season. For those of you who are new to our league, I hope your season with us will be a positive one. You will find that Ball Hockey Edmonton strives to be a safe and fun place to play. We have many volunteers and contract staff who do all the hard work behind the scenes. Our goal is to make this a good league both on and off the floor for all of our players.

I wish you all a safe season, and I thank all the team reps who take the time to organize teams and get very little recognition. A job well done gentlemen! See you at the rinks this spring and summer!

Gabriel Nader,
President of B.H.E.



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2013 BALL HOCKEY SEASON NOW UNDERWAY!

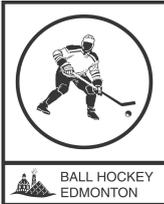
Men's League of Ball Hockey Edmonton kicks off the 2013 regular season with a total of 106 teams split into 12 divisions of play. There was a bit of turnover, as we lost some veteran teams, but we also had a few teams return back to our league. Here is a breakdown of the 106 teams registered this season:

- > 78 Returning teams
- > 14 new teams
- > 7 teams from Metro League
- > 6 teams returning after absence
- > 1 team graduated from Minor League

The list of teams coming back after an absence include the following: *Flyers (Div. 2), Nordiques (Div. 3), Tigers (Div.7), Battalion (Div. 4), Team Goodtimes (Div.8), & Renegades (Div.12)*. We would like to also welcome to our league several teams who played in the Metro League last year ... we are glad you have come over to play with Ball Hockey Edmonton. Those teams are: *Team Pending (Div. 4), Rink Rats (Div. 5), Soldiers (Div. 5), Fuzzy Tacos (Div. 5), Crown Royals (Div. 10), Invasion (Div.10), and the Thunder Buddies (Div.10)*,

Your Executive Committee for 2013 include President Gabriel Nader, back for another term as the boss man. Steve Weber is back as the League Treasurer, and also back is Director at Large Matt Lui. These 3 individuals are joined by some very solid contract staff, as Donna Lunnin returns as Office Manager, Steve Weber is also back as Technical Director, Referee Assigning will be handled by Jeremy Klausner, and Timekeeper Assigning will be done by Randy Layetzke. Steve Posavec will be assisting the staff by working on a few projects such as bookings, website, and league newsletters.

This year you will see some improvements with our services. We started taking credit cards & debit as payments for fees, fines, and merchandise. Stats are being entered the same night as your game by our Supervisors. The league newsletter is back after an absence of a few years. All these things are just a few areas that we have improved, to make BHE a better place for you to play!



BALL HOCKEY EDMONTON

MEN'S LEAGUE INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS

The offices of Ball Hockey Edmonton are located in the West Soccer Centre. We are open 5 days a week for the spring-summer hours, and our hours are as follows:

- *Sunday-Thursdays ... 5:30pm-9:30pm*
- *Friday & Saturday ... office is closed*

The phone number at the office is (780) 944-4090, and to contact us by e-mail, please send it to bheoffice@shaw.ca

ROSTER CHANGE DEADLINE

The deadline for player additions is July 1st. This rule is put in place by Wild Rose Ball Hockey Association, our Provincial Association. At no time can your roster exceed 25 players, so when you reach that level, you have to release players before you can add more to your roster.

MEN'S LEAGUE FEES

League fees for all Men's teams are now due. If you need an update on how much you have paid, please contact Donna at the office ... call her at 780-944-4090. Deadline for all league fees to be paid is the May long weekend ... if your team does not pay up, you may not be allowed to play games after the May long weekend.

CORRECTIONS TO STATS

We ask all team reps to look over the gamesheet after your game, and if there are any mistakes, please e-mail us the changes and we will gladly make them for you. Just send your changes to the BHE office.

RULEBOOKS FOR MEN'S TEAMS

Part of your Wild Rose fees includes a rulebook for every team. We have been handing out these 2013 rulebooks to teams over the last week or so. If you do not have your rulebook yet, please call Donna at the office and make arrangements to come and pick one up.

OVERTIME LOSS EQUALS 1 POINT

Just in case you did not know, teams that lose in overtime are awarded a single point. In the standings, it shows up in the "OTL" column. This was voted in a couple of years ago, and teams seem to be happy with this system for awarding points for games.

NO BOOZE AT SOCCER CENTRES OR PARKING LOTS

There have been a couple of cases where teams have been caught with alcohol in the dressing rooms. This is not allowed, and a team will be fined \$250 if you are found with booze in the building. This is a serious offence ... because they have lounges in all buildings, they could lose their liquor license if other booze is found in the building. Also, booze consumption is not allowed in the parking lot area. Teams may be fined and the police may be called as well. Let's use the lounge to have a cool one after your ball hockey game.

LEAGUE'S PRIVACY STATEMENT

Ball Hockey Edmonton requires personal information from players on the individual registration forms. The type of personal information required on the form includes address, phone number, and date of birth. This information collected is strictly used for identification purposes, and on occasion, we will use the info to contact a player in regards to league issues. This information is NOT sold, traded, or distributed to anyone or to any company. It stays with us and is locked securely in our offices. The only access to this information is by the League President, the League Manager, and the League Registrar. After a 1 year period, the individual forms that were filled out are shredded and destroyed. For more information on our privacy statement, you may contact the league at 944-4090.

JERSEY'S FOR SALE

We have some sets of jerseys (numbered, no crests) for sale if you are interested. There is a minimum of 18 in a set, and they are \$499 per set. Gabe has more info, call him at 499-6466

A BIT ABOUT “PLAY ON” TOURNAMENT ... EVENT HISTORY

Hockey Night in Canada’s Play On! Edmonton held its inaugural event in 2008 in Downtown Edmonton’s Churchill Square with 162 teams (972 participants). Since that time, and due to its rapid growth the event has moved venues (West Edmonton Mall) and sold out in each of the last 4 years with more than 550 teams (3700 + participants).

Hockey Night in Canada’s Play On! Edmonton is part of a highly organized national street hockey event series that operates in 21 cities across Canada. The Play On! events are designed to appeal to the current generation of Canadians and represent a celebration of hockey in its most pure form.

Centered around the attraction of large-scale 4 on 4 street hockey tournaments for both genders, all skill levels, and all ages, the program was designed to celebrate Canadian culture and the game of hockey in its most innocent form. The events are designed – first and foremost – to provide an exceptional life experience to participants and their families. Play On! Edmonton is the largest street hockey event of its kind in Canada and has consistently set participatory records in each of the past 4 years. Management continues this momentum by working closely with Edmonton’s local hockey (Ball Hockey & Ice Hockey) partners and best in class corporate partners.

The CBC Hockey Night in Canada’s Play On! event series culminates annually with a national championship event, where Elite winners and finalists from each event gather to compete for the title of ‘Canada’s Greatest Street Hockey Players’ and the Redwood Cup. This sterling silver and redwood trophy, along with winner’s sticks and jerseys, has recently been featured in a dedicated exhibit within the Hockey Hall of Fame.

More information can be found by visiting the Hockey Night in Canada’s Play On! Edmonton website at www.playon.ca/events/edmonton .



CHANGES AT THE PROVINCIAL LEVEL



The Wild Rose Ball Hockey Association has added another level of play at the Provincial level. The 2013 season will see the addition of the “Recreation Level” for the Men’s side. For the first time ever, true rec teams will have the opportunity to participate at the Provincials. This new added level of play has slightly changes our league structure as well:

- > Tier One: Includes Division 1 teams only
- > Tier Two: Includes Division 2 & 3 teams
- > Tier Three: Includes Division 4-5-6 teams
- > Tier Four: Includes Divisions 7-6-9-10 teams
- > Rec Level: Includes Division 11-12 teams

Our league will be asking the Provincial group for a total of 4 spots to 2013 Provincials. If they approve, we will likely invite our top 2 teams from Divisions 11 & 12 to the Provincials. It is good vision on the part of Wild Rose to add Recreation level to Provincials. The sport of ball hockey has lot of rec level teams and players participating. To give these players a chance to be part of Provincials is a very good thing. Wild Rose is hoping for a minimum of 8 teams for 2013.

2013 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Ball Hockey Edmonton - Men's League

<i>Start of Men's regular season of play</i>	<i>April 12</i>
<i>Re-Tiering & Start of second half</i>	<i>May 27</i>
<i>Play-On 2013 Street Hockey Tournament</i>	<i>June 1-2</i>
<i>Start of Men's Playoffs</i>	<i>Mid July</i>
<i>Canada Western Championships (Men's Tier 2-3-4) @ Red Deer, Alberta</i>	<i>July 25-26-27-28</i>
<i>Wild Rose Men's Provincials (Men's Tier 1-2-3-4-Rec) @ Edmonton, Alberta</i>	<i>August 2-3-4-5</i>
<i>Canadian Ball Hockey Nationals (Men & Women ... Tier 1) @ Montreal Quebec</i>	<i>August 12 to 17</i>
<i>B.H.E. Fall-Winter League begins play</i>	<i>October ???</i>

B.H.E. WINTER LEAGUE A SUCCESS

After a 2 year absence, Ball Hockey Edmonton held a winter league and it was a very good thing! The Men's winter league, which went from January 2 to March 31, was held at the EAST Soccer Centre. Imaging playing winter ball hockey in a warm, clean, and safe facility ... that I what our teams got this past winter.

The Winter program saw a total of 29 Men's teams, and another 14 Minor League teams. The Men's league played their games Monday through Thursday, and the kids played on Saturday's.

Congratulations to all of our Men's Winter Champions. The list of Men's winners for 2013 include:

- > *Division 1 Champions ... SAVAGES*
- > *Division 2 Champions ... C-SQUAD*
- > *Division 3 Champions ... BURGER KINGS*
- > *Division 4 Champions ... THE KINGS*
- > *Division 5 Champions ... GOALBUSTERS*
- > *Division 6 Champions ... SILVER KINGS*
- > *Division 7 Champions ... ROADRUNNERS*

EDMONTON MINOR PROGRAM CONTINUES TO GROW

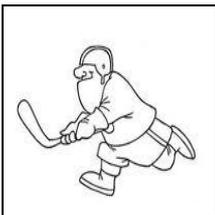
Our friends over at the Minor Ball Hockey Association of Edmonton continue to be one of the largest Minor programs in Canada. This year, the Minor program has expanded by approx. 200 players. In 2013, the Minor League has 100 teams playing this season. Add in another 8 pre-novice teams (kids aged 3-4-5-6) and this marks the largest the Minor league has ever been player wise.

The biggest growth has been evident in 2 levels of play ... the Pre-Novice and the Minor levels. We still have a huge amount of Major level teams (kids aged 15-16-17) as 26 teams are playing. This is a good thing, because once these kids turn 18, they will be able to move into the Men's league. Over the years we have had hundreds of kids move to the Men's league once they finish the kids program.

The constant growth of Minor ball hockey is probably due to a couple of factors. First of all, the cost is very low compared to other sports. There are no zones, so the kids can play with their buddies and relatives, no matter what part of the city they live in. There are no bingo's or fund-raisers and there are no 6:00 am practices, so the parents have many reasons to love ball hockey. But the biggest reason for the growth is that the Minor league runs a very good program. Volunteers and some contract staff do a great job in organizing the sport, and kids keep coming back.

The way the Minor league is structured, there is a place for every kid to play. Whether you have a high level of ice-hockey experience or have never played ice-hockey, there is a level for everyone.





STATS & SHORTS

by Steve Posavec

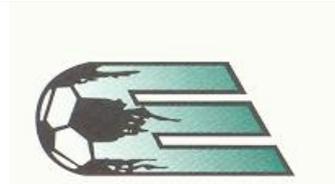
- Another ball hockey season is here, and this year marks the 32nd year of operation. We are one of the oldest ball hockey leagues in Canada, and we continue to be one of the largest leagues in the country. There is a reason teams keep coming back ... we are not for profit, and our first priority is making this a safe and fun place to play!

- The BHE Whalers will get an opportunity to go to Nationals in August. One of the Calgary teams dropped out, so the Whalers, who finished 3rd at Provincials, have agreed to take the open spot. The Whalers are working on trying to gather the best available talent from our league, and here is hoping they can get everyone they are looking for. They will be a young team at Nationals, but young teams are hungry, and they may be able to challenge for a quarter-final spot on the Men's side

- There are 3 other teams who will be playing at the Western Regional Championships in Red Deer in late July. The BHE Top Shelf will be playing on the "B" side, while the BHE Edge and BHE Cobras play at the "C" Westerns. These spots were earned with top 2 finishes at the 2012 Provincials ... Top Shelf won Tier 2 Gold, The Edge won Tier 3 Gold, and the Cobras claimed Tier 3 Silver ... best of luck to all 3 teams!

- The gang from Wild Rose Ball Hockey and both local leagues (including Ball Hockey Edmonton) who helped host the 2012 Nationals in Edmonton should be proud of their efforts. The 2012 Canadian Nationals for Men & Women were held at the Millwoods Twin Rec Centre, and the host groups did a great job. Lots of talk from visiting coaches, players, and referees on how well things were organized. A lot of hard work went into hosting those Nationals, but the efforts really showed at the Nationals. We had great games on the floor, large crowds, and excellent media coverage. Once again Edmonton can hold our heads up high ... a job well done. Thanks to all the members on the Host Committee!

- Tough to see a couple of veteran teams fold. Gone from Division 1 are the Nighthawks, Jets, Capitals, and the Playaz. The Cavemen & Crown Royals (Div.2) also folded, as did the Fury, Thatswhatshesaid, Hotshots, Rangers, Broadstreet Bullies, and Cashstore Canadians. Hope to see some of these teams come back for the 2014 season!



EDMONTON SOCCER FACILITIES

**Our staff wishes all teams a
successful season in 2013!**

*To book practice time at any of our 3
facilities, please call our bookings line*

@ 413-6493 - ext #1

WILD ROSE PUTS ON A GREAT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

The Wild Rose Ball Hockey Association was given the task of hosting the 2012 Men's & Women's National Championships. The Wild Rose group picked Edmonton as the host centre, and in retrospect, it was a very good choice. The Host Chairpersons were John & Connie Liosis, and they did put together a team of volunteers who were committed in making the event the success it was.

Teams, players, coaches, Executives, and officials came from across Canada in late August, and they were all treated very well. The tournament was well organized and everyone was treated very well. It was a bonus that the games were very good, and there were many teams who had a chance to win the whole thing on both the Men's and Women's side. The venue was the Millwoods Twin Rec Centre, and that building was perfect for our event. The crowds were outstanding all week long, the media coverage was very good, and the banquet was a fun event as well.

At the end of the National Championships, there were a lot of positive comments from many people who participated. Thank you to all the Host Committee members for doing such a great job ... you showed the rest of Canada that Edmonton is still a hotbed of ball hockey in this country, and that we know how to host one hell-of-a-National Championship!

