

October 2017

STIX 'n PUX

BMHA Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Everyone,

It's really amazing how time marches on and that we are already at the end of September and a full month into school and back at the ice rinks. I want to share a quote from one of my co-workers who stated *"It's really amazing as you get older, the days sometimes seem to drag, however, the months and years seem to fly by!"*

My youngest son, Quinn, graduated from high school in June and received a graduating Midget ring for his 12 consecutive seasons playing minor hockey as a proud member of BMHA. Quinn was the last of my four sons who went through BMHA and looking back over the last 22 years, I was extremely fortunate to have experienced the initial years of each of my sons' hockey experiences not once, but four times.

While it sometimes seemed that the early years of watching your son or daughter learn to skate without falling down, learn to stop, turn, skate with the puck, pass and shoot could not come soon enough, these were the most memorable. These were the "fun" years of tyke/novice (5, 6, 7 & 8 year olds) when there was no officially Hockey Canada recognized 'rep' hockey teams until Pee Wee and the focus was on individual development and learning the basic individual skills of the game. Don't get me wrong, back in the mid to late 90s, the players and coaches were just as competitive as our players and coaches today as we could not wait to play games on a full sheet of ice.

The difference today is that the playing field has changed and the focus at the 5 to 8 year old age group has been the recent switch to cross-ice or half-ice

hockey from full ice games. There is also a renewed focus on practices that are based on using half-ice.

This all makes sense as the evidence and experience from both the US and especially Sweden – who "has done it (cross-ice hockey) for decades and does not stream players into elite levels until their teenage years." Players have more fun, develop the basic hockey skills faster and more players are attracted and stay in the game longer. Many other sports such as soccer, baseball, basketball and tennis have previously recognized that putting a young athlete on full-size pitches, diamonds and courts hinders an individual child's development in a particular sport and they have all adjusted the size of their respective sports' field of play for these younger age groups.

BC Hockey, being an organization that prides itself in being a leader rather than a follower, mandated this change for last season (2016-2017) and for those that were impacted, this was mandated on very short notice (July 2016) after the introduction of the concept by Hockey Canada in the late Spring of 2016. There was a huge uproar amongst the many PCAHA associations and rightly so as there was no provision for a transition year for the 8 year olds who had played full ice games the previous season and would now be moving to cross or half-ice games for the 2016-2017 season.

I bring this topic up now as I have just read two articles this past week regarding the March 2017 Hockey Canada decision mandating that cross-ice hockey is mandatory for all players under the age seven starting this season. The articles point out the backlash from parents in the Ontario Hockey Federation (BC Hockey equivalent) particularly from a number of leagues in the Greater Toronto Hockey League where this would impact their 6 and 7 year olds playing on "Select"

teams! These parents are in an uproar because their “elite” streamed kids “need to be challenged at a higher level”. I have two points as follows:

1. I am glad that even though we had transition issues in BC, we were early adopters of cross-ice hockey; and,
2. I can't believe that kids are playing “Select” or “Rep” hockey at the age of six and seven years old! This goes against all common sense and although this is not explicitly supported by Hockey Canada, it exists in Toronto.

I am not against challenging your child and wanting your child to play with and against similarly skilled players, however, does this benefit a 6 or 7 year old in the long run and community based minor hockey associations should not be forced to compete against these “select” teams.

Unfortunately, there will always be those who believe that “their group is exceptional”. Here is the [link to one of the articles that was published in The Hockey News](#). Be sure to read the comments posted by readers as well – some are very interesting.

On a very good news and long overdue note, I attended the Public Open House to get a preliminary view of the two new NHL-sized ice sheets proposed for South Burnaby (bordering 18th Street and 10th Avenue). If all goes well, ground breaking will begin in the fall of 2018 with completion scheduled for the fall of 2019! The arenas are in the Concept Design phase and Parks & Rec is asking for public feedback. I have submitted my comments supporting the proposed program activities and vision. I hope that our membership can provide positive and constructive feedback as well. Here is the [link to City's webpage and the short power point presentation](#):

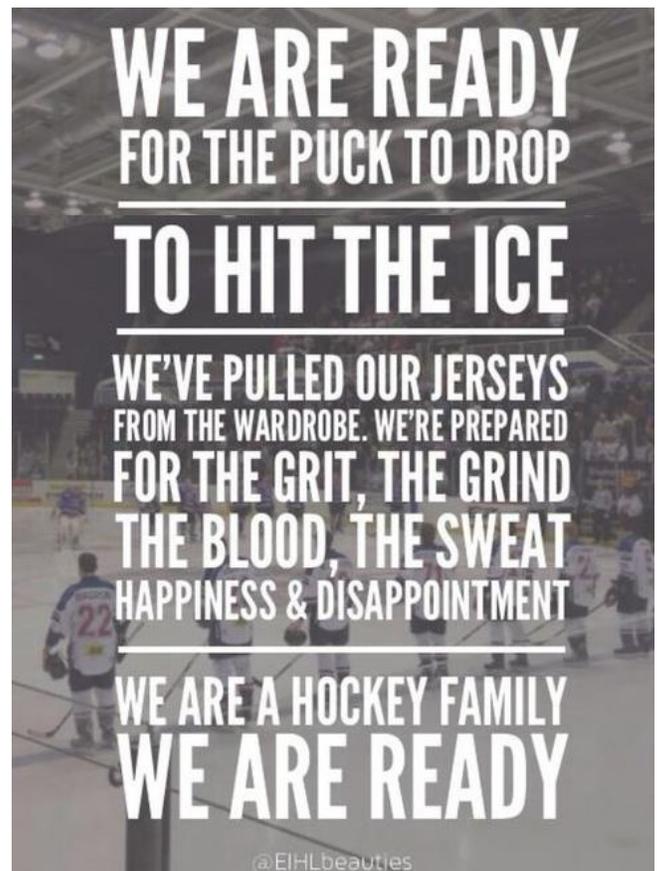
At this time, I want to thank all those who have recently stepped up to be volunteers this season. We hope that you have an enjoyable season and know that our kids would not have this opportunity without your involvement. Thank you to all the coaches, managers, Hockey Canada Safety Persons (HCSPs), timekeepers,

scorekeepers, team fund managers, dressing room monitors and tournament volunteers. Please reach out to any of the BMHA Executive if you have questions, suggestions, need help or training.

Finally, I want to thank everyone for their patience, understanding and sportsmanship so far. I know it's early and there has been ice time conflicts and changes (at least one or two double booked ice times), unforeseen team changes and new members and volunteers learning the ropes. Unfortunately, this is part of the early season ice allocation, rep evaluation and selection, 'C' team balancing and recruiting new volunteers to be positive BMHA difference makers for our kids.

Have a great season everyone!

- Darryl



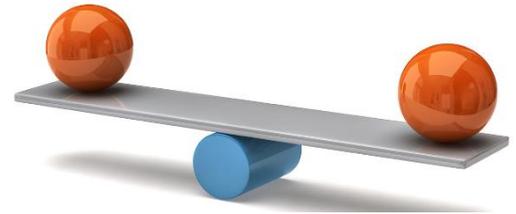
REGISTRATION UPDATE - 50+ Teams and Over \$1500 Donated to Kidsport!

After a successful registration, BMHA membership sits at almost 800 members (and continues to grow daily as we are still accepting registrations for some divisions) and 52 teams this year!

Also, a big thank you to all the BMHA members who graciously made a donation to Kidsport Burnaby while registering their kids for this hockey season. Kidsport is a not-for-profit organization that provides financial assistance for registration fees and equipment to kids aged 18 and under – last year the Burnaby chapter helped over 250 kids. Over the last few seasons, BMHA has provided members the opportunity to donate to organizations such as Kidsport and A4K Athletics 4 Kids and we are proud to continue to this tradition and help out “SO ALL KIDS CAN PLAY!”

BALANCING IN “C” DIVISIONS - What is “Balancing”?

Each season, we want to remind parents about “Balancing” - most parents don't pay a lot of attention to this process until their child is one of the players that must make a move so it is helpful to outline what balancing is and why it is required by PCAHA and BMHA.



What is "Balancing"?

Balancing is a term used by Pacific Coast Amateur Hockey Association (PCAHA) to describe a process by which teams within a division are evaluated and, through player movements, start the season at even strength.

Why does BMHA balance teams?

As a member of PCAHA, we are mandated to have balanced teams. This is a mandatory requirement of being a minor hockey association in the Pacific Coast region. We are not able to opt out of the process, and the final declaration of whether or not teams are “balanced” is the prerogative of PCAHA, not BMHA. We simply facilitate the process and do our best to bring the teams into alignment before PCAHA makes any final moves.

How is balancing done?

Your child is temporarily assigned to a group of skaters at the start of the season. The first couple of weeks are primarily used for evaluations. Then these groupings begin to play games against each other to determine if they are of equal strength. During that time, stats are evaluated, and decisions are made by BMHA Division Managers as to how to redistribute players with the intention that no single group is stronger or weaker than the others. If we discover that our groups are unbalanced, we are obligated to redistribute players to make them more even strength. This continues until our groups are balanced and PCAHA gives our newly formed teams official status.

The final declaration of whether or not teams are “balanced” is the prerogative of PCAHA, not BMHA. PCAHA has the right to unilaterally declare these groups not balanced and, in some cases, decide which players will be moved. BMHA simply facilitates the process and do our best to bring the teams into alignment as soon as possible. By late-October/early-November, most kids will have been placed into the groups they will play the season out with. HOWEVER, at anytime up to January 10th, PCAHA may mandate player movement between teams to meet the mandatory balancing requirement

BMHA'S JUNIOR MENTOR PROGRAM - 2nd Yr Bantam & Midget Players

Burnaby Minor Hockey Association offers a Junior Mentor Program, where our older divisions' players have the opportunity to be mentored as an assistant coach with the goal of developing them into a future coach, and providing BMHA's older players the opportunity to mentor the younger players. BMHA's Midget & 2nd Year Bantam players can meet their secondary school community service obligation, while being able to "give something back" to their hockey community.

For more information, contact Joe Wansink at headcoach@burnabyminor.com

BURNABY MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION



Do Something Great This Hockey Season!

Burnaby Minor Hockey Association
Junior Mentoring Program

Available to all Midget-Aged & 2nd Year Bantam Players

Give Back & Earn Valuable Volunteer Hours!

Burnaby Minor Hockey Association has established a Junior Mentor Program, where our older divisions' players have the opportunity to be mentored as an assistant coach with the goal of developing them into a future coach, and providing BMHA's older players the opportunity to mentor the younger players.

BMHA's Midget & 2nd Year Bantam players can meet their secondary school community service obligation, while being able to "give something back" to their hockey community.

- ✓ Offer on-ice assistance to coaches and players – Hockey 1- Peewee C
- ✓ Develop your leadership, teamwork, and communication skills
- ✓ Gain valuable volunteer hours for your resume
- ✓ Be role model – share your passion for hockey while giving back to BMHA

All successful clinic applicants will be required to:

- ✓ Commit to a weekly schedule (1-2 sessions / week)
- ✓ Log volunteer sessions
- ✓ Represent yourself with maturity & responsibility
- ✓ Work together with your host coach and the Junior Mentor Coordinator – Joe Wansink
- ✓ Have fun!

- ✓ Goalies are welcome
- ✓ The BMHA Junior Mentoring program will work around players' schedules
- ✓ All applicants must apply online at [form on website] or for more information contact Joe Wansink at headcoach@burnabyminor.com

BURNABY FEMALE REMEMBRANCE DAY TOURNAMENT - November 11-13th!

The Burnaby Wildcats is proud to host our 11th annual Remembrance Day Tournament, the largest female recreational hockey tournament in BC! We're anticipating over 600 female hockey players from the Lower Mainland, Interior, Vancouver Island and Washington State.



How can you help? We will gladly accept:

- Sponsorship – Company logo on all championship trophies, on draw string bags, etc.
- Raffle prizes – Prizes in products or in-kind service such as 1-hour piano service, complimentary 1-month trial of a service
- Donations – Any other donation such as Canucks game tickets, sports merchandize or memorabilia, etc.

All prize donations and sponsorships will be recognized in our tournament program – over 600 will be printed and even more visibility all around the Province!

Visit the [website](#) for tournament details or contact BurnabyWildcats@gmail.com for more information.

G & F FINANCIAL - Tix to Vancouver Giants Oct. 7 Game Special Offer!

G & F Financial Group is offering to the first three BMHA members to come to the North Burnaby branch and open a savings account and receive a pair of tickets to the Vancouver Giants game on October 7th! Visit the branch at 4191 Hastings Street, 105, Burnaby or call (604) 419-8888 for more information!



BMHA SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES - Looking for Sponsors for 2017/18

While BMHA is very lucky to have the dedication of parents and volunteers, we are looking for the support of business sponsors to help maintain the quality of our programs and ensure the game is accessible to all the growing number of kids who want to play hockey.

If you are a business owner, work at a company or know of someone who may be interested in increasing their business and exposure to their customers while supporting BMHA, the Association has developed sponsorship and advertising opportunities. The BMHA [Sponsorship & Advertising Package](#) on the BMHA website provides information on how corporate businesses can become part of our team!

We also encourage our members to support the generous sponsors of BMHA, including McDonalds, Scotiabank, Performance Institute, G & F Financial Group, Real Hip Clothing, and Trinity Plumbing. A full list of sponsors can be found on the website on the [Sponsor & Offers page](#).

If anyone has any questions about sponsorship and advertising, please communications@burnabyminor.com.

BMHA SUCCESS STORIES - Call for Stories!

We're always looking for stories about BMHA members' and teams' successes both on and off the ice! If you have a story idea, please email communications@burnabyminor.com.

DATES TO REMEMBER - MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- Wednesday, October 4 – PCAHA "C" League Coach-Manager Meeting for Atom & Peewee, 7:00pm, Britannia Secondary, Auditorium
- Thursday, October 5 – PCAHA "C" League Coach-Manager Meeting for Bantam, Midget & Juvenile, 7:00pm, Britannia Secondary, Auditorium
- Sunday, October 15 – Real Hip 2017 Bulldog & Wildcats Collection, 11am to 4pm, 7138 Randolph Avenue, Burnaby
- November 11 to 13 – BMHA Female Hockey Remembrance Day Tournament, 8-Rinks

SPONSOR OFFERS

REAL HIP CLOTHING LTD.

BURNABY BULLDOGS & WILDCATS 2017 NEW COLLECTION

Come & order on **Sunday, October 15th**
11am to 4pm

Real Hip Office at 7138 Randolph Avenue, Burnaby

Full Catalog Available On-Site



Further Inquiries or Need to Place An Order:
Call 604-558-1166 or email (realhip@shaw.ca)

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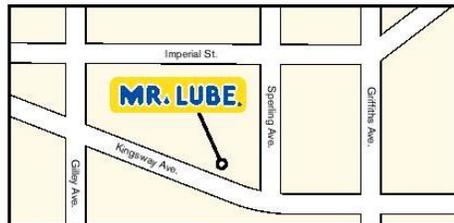


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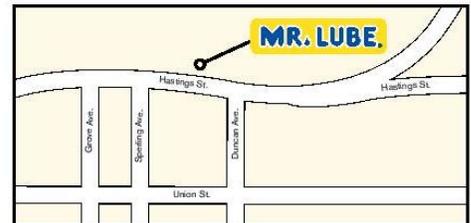
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Keith Wickens
Operations Manager



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Or visit any of our other 13 locations in the Greater Vancouver Area near you.

We service all makes and models. No appointment needed. Open every day.

Limited time offer only valid until October 29.

FREE pair of Michelin® Hybrid wiper blades with any oil change package

While supplies last. Offer applies to the purchase of any oil change and must be presented at time of service. Not valid with any other oil change service discount or coupon. Valid at participating locations. Michelin® blades not available at Mr. Lube in Walmart locations. An alternate wiper/oil offer available at these locations. Prices may vary and additional environmental and/or supply fees may apply. No cash value and restrictions may apply. Expiry: October 29, 2017. Code: L1002



MR. LUBE.