

Northstars News

November 2014

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From the Desk of Rick McAdie – President's Message

Wow, here we are in the midst of another hockey season. Hard to believe that so much has happened and we are really only about six weeks away from Christmas.

Looking back, the Northstars had a great conditioning camp led by our own Sam Schulz and coordinated by Marvin Heise. We then went directly into tiering. The one major difference the whole zone saw this year is reflected in how we re-worked our Initiation program. In the past, each of the three areas in the Northeast Zone managed their own Initiation programs. Each area reported different success and challenges in operating their programs. What became apparent was there was a need to create a program that was inviting to both child and parent since the Initiation experience was often the first hockey experience for families. The Zone put together a committee with representation from each of the hockey clubs to look at the possibility of developing a standardized Initiation program throughout the northeast area, much like we currently do with the Bantam and Midget programs.

Over the summer the committee met several times to identify a structure that would allow the areas to collaborate and develop a collective zone Initiation program. While there have been some growing pains in developing the new program, everyone involved has come together to resolve the issues. While each of the three areas commonly agree that we want to maintain our distinct identity and history, we also agree that we have to work together to provide a better developmental hockey experience for all of our participants. The committee meets regularly and encourages feedback from all stakeholders.

One highlight from the collaboration has been the change that we are making to the annual Northstars/Brave Raiders Oil Kings event. In the past this evening was only for the players and families of our two organizations. This year our coordinator, Kim Green, has agreed to organize the experience for all Initiation players and families in the Northeast Zone as well as our other categories.

We have now completed all team photographs and hopefully you will have them in time for Christmas. We have also completed one round of tiering and adjustments have been made to allow teams to be competitive as well as developmental. Speaking of development, the Northstars have contributed considerable resources towards the Zone goalie clinics, and the zone development program. The programs are excellent opportunities for your child to get top-notch instruction so please take advantage of the opportunity.

I would like to thank the Northstars executive for all of their hard work over the last few months. I became quite ill in August and without hesitation our executive stepped up and filled in where necessary. Please know that the Northstars office is open every Monday from 7-9 PM and we welcome hearing from you. Our website which is another great way to connect with us, and we really do like the feedback. From the Northstars to you...have a great Christmas and see you at the rink.

Rick McAdie

Upcoming Events

December 8, 2014 Christmas Open House – Northstars Clubhouse, 7:30-9 pm

December 28 & 29, 2014 ENAC Casino – Century Casino on Fort Road

January 3, 2015 Northstars/Brave Raiders Night at the Oil Kings Game

January 9-18, 2015 Edmonton Minor Hockey Week

It's Northstars/Brave Raiders Night at the Oil Kings!

Mark your calendars for January 3, 2015! Edmonton Northstars is pleased to join the Brave Raiders Hockey Club and sponsor Northstars/Brave Raiders Night at the Oil Kings game against the Kootenay Ice. Join the Northstars sea of green as we cheer on another NE Edmonton hockey team, the Edmonton Oil Kings!

The Northstars have purchased tickets for each Northstars player and coach to attend the game on January 3rd. Every Northstars player and coach will be provided with a complimentary ticket to the game, and every Northstars team will have the opportunity to enjoy a very special Oil Kings experience. Your team might be selected to warm the Oil Kings bench while the Oil Kings have a pre-game skate, be the flag bearer during the national anthem, or attend an autograph session with Oil Kings players after the game!

In order to attend, each team will be required to purchase at least 10 additional tickets at \$17 each for parents and family members. Teams can purchase as many extra tickets as they'd like for \$17 each. It's an excellent opportunity for teams and their families to bond together and cheer on the Oil Kings at a great price!

Team tickets can be ordered through your Northstars team until December 8th, with ticket pick up on December 15th at the Northstars clubhouse. Additional tickets can be purchased after that deadline, but we can't guarantee seating in the same area. Watch for full event details on our website and via team coaches and managers. Email Kim Green at kim@sweetzir.com for more information.

Congratulations to Our Award-Winning Northstars Volunteers!

Rick McAdie

Northstars President Rick McAdie was honoured as the **Dedicated Worker of the Year** at the recent Northeast Zone Awards Banquet. NEZ President Lorraine Jex commended Rick for his commitment to fair play and consultative processes both at the Northstars and the NEZ.

Jocelyn Wiens

ENAC salutes Peewee Director Jocelyn Wiens, who was recognized by the Northeast Zone as the **Winter Sports Director of the Year**. Jocelyn's energy, commitment to players, coaches and families, and willingness to lend a hand, wherever needed, were all highlighted in the awards presentation.

Dylan Leinweber

Northstars Initiation coach Dylan Leinweber was honoured as the Northeast Zone **Coach of the Year**. As a first-time coach Dylan relied on his teaching background to help the kids to become better hockey players. Dylan taught his players to master the small concepts of the game and make huge strides on the ice. His patience and attitude with the players has taught them hockey is a great sport, while making it fun.

Hockey Edmonton Joins RAMP!

Good news from the Hockey Edmonton! EMHA has moved their website to the RAMP platform, which also hosts www.nstars.com site. This means that all games entered into the Hockey Edmonton site will automatically transfer to the Northstars site. Teams will now see two tabs under their Schedule: **Hockey Edmonton & Team Games**. **Hockey Edmonton** will show pre-season & regular season games once they have been entered on the Hockey Edmonton site. And, the **Team Games** tab will feature exhibition and tournament game schedules entered by the team. Another great change will see category directors entering game sheet results onto Hockey Edmonton's site. This will automatically transfer results to nstars.com, where you can check for all the latest game updates

Got any feedback about the website? Contact web@nstars.com

Initiation Program Update

There are 51 kids enrolled in the Initiation hockey program this year, and the kids have been broken up into 4 teams, two at the Initiation I level and two at the Initiation II level.

Now that most of our newest hockey players on the Initiation I teams are moving on skates and know how to use their stick as leverage to get themselves up on their feet, the real work for them begins!

To get things started, we had power skating instructor Donna Stewart come and do a session with the group.

These teams are still looking for volunteer coaches, so if you are interested in getting involved with our newest hockey players, please email initiation_director@nstars.com.

Robin Stocks
Initiation Director