

Happy October SGMHA Members



A belated Happy Thanksgiving to everyone, hopefully you were all able to find some time to spend with friends and family over the holiday.

Hockey season is now in full swing. Teams are made, games are being played and even the neighbourhoods have been busy with teams out collecting bottles. Glad to see the arenas filled with activity.

EVALUATIONS:

Now that we have gone through the evaluation part of our season and the teams have been formed, our board will take some time to meet and discuss how the whole process went this year. Moving to an independent evaluation company this year was a big step in our association. While there were many successes with this new process, it was also not without some failures.

Overall, I would say it well exceeded my expectations. One thing I would like to stress to parents when it comes to placement of players, due to the higher than ever numbers for tryout numbers at 13AA, 15AA/AAA, 16AA, 17AAA and 18AA, it had a major impact on our tiered teams. Because our PAC teams are made of players within certain draw zones and even import players, every time an athlete makes one of those clubs that is not an SGMHA player, it affects our tiered teams. This year there are roughly 50 players on the rosters for these teams. This has absolutely had an impact at our tiered level.

BREWHOUSE ASSOCIATION COUPON

Thanks to the amazing work of our 2nd VP Andrea Rushfeldt, SGMHA and PAC have partnered with the Spruce Grove Canadian Brewhouse. The Brewhouse has offered a coupon to all of our coaches, managers and adult SGMHA members to enjoy discounts at our local Brewhouse location. An email was sent out earlier to teams with the coupon and information. Please be sure to get out and support our local Brewhouse location.

MYSHAK GROUP

Another big shout out to another one of our fantastic local businesses The Myshak Group. They have been gracious enough to provide SGMHA with 4 season tickets to the Spruce Grove Saints. I will be randomly giving these tickets out throughout the season. Thanks again, Myshak Group

BREAKFAST CLUB

Our Tuesday morning Breakfast Club is well underway. Together with MCN Sports, I am excited to say the program is going well so far. The registration numbers are not as strong as what I was hoping for, but for those who have signed up, it has been well received. There are still spots available, if you are interested email me at president@sgmha.ca

COACH NIGHT

Our coach appreciation night was held Oct 22nd and by all accounts was fairly well attended and enjoyed by all those in attendance. Big thank you to our Coach Director Tom Tremain for organizing the event.

SOCIAL MEDIA

This past month social media has been buzzing with several posts of exciting events being held both on and off the ice from our teams. Please feel free to share any news or photos you have from games and team events and be sure to tag us. Also give us a follow on Facebook (Spruce Grove Minor Hockey Association) Instagram (sprucegroveminoorhockey) and Twitter



Twitter (@SpruceGrove_MHA). Keep up the great work teams, and a huge thanks to our Social Media guru Cam Desjarlais. If you have pictures to send in, please send to socialmedia@sgmha.ca

LEVEL DIRECTORS

I would also like to take a moment to say an enormous thank you to all of our level directors as well as Chair of Operations for all of their tremendous work throughout the past couple of months.

Mid August to early October is the peak of busy for these volunteers. From evaluation scheduling, group formations, coach interviews to finally team formation, these people are extremely busy during this time. Not only are these volunteers busy with their roles within SGMHA, they are also hockey parents like the rest of us. They too have schedules to juggle in order to get their kids to the rink on time. They too have to deal with the emotions of their children from success to failure.

Please be mindful of this the next time you feel the need to have answers about your child immediately. Not only do our volunteers have to look after their children, they have over 100 other players in their divisions to look after. Unfortunately, these people only hear the negative from upset parents. While it is not a huge amount of negative communication with parents, it truly does derail the amazing work they do. Remember one thing, without volunteers, minor sports does not operate.

Thank you

U7- Sheldon Penman/ Adam Creech

U9- Chris Corbett

U11 - Ryan Kennedy

U13- Paul Limoges

U15- Jordan Duffy

U18- Christina Haugan

Operations- Dan Szoo



CLOSING

One last item of business, please if for whatever reason you need to reach out to our vendors or league or facilities, please do not do so. Please contact myself, the office or your appropriate level director and we will be more than happy to help you out. Unfortunately, they do not have the time to tend to every email or call from hockey parents, the volume would be overwhelming.

Thanks again to all of our volunteers both on and off ice that helped get us through evaluations. Exciting season ahead! Good luck to all of our teams!

Mike Watt
SGMHA President

