



# Hockey Programs Update

September, 2020

By Mike Terwilliger

## **Fall Clinics:**

We will be wrapping up our Fall Skills Clinics over the next few weeks. Here are the details:

- As you know, we cancelled/postponed all Spring Skills Clinics in March after Covid-19 hit.
- Once we knew we would be getting back onto the ice, we rescheduled a good number of the Spring Clinics to the Summer/Fall time frame. We didn't schedule quite as many as were originally on the schedule for the Spring as we were uncertain how they would fill. Most families that were signed up in the Spring opted for one of the rescheduled clinics and in general, we had pretty solid attendance.
- 336 players were enrolled in our 2020 Clinics (up from 229 last Fall)
  - 213 of those 336 were in our General Skills Clinics
  - 44 of those 336 were in the District 9 Skills Clinics
  - 79 of those 336 were in the Girls Fall Training.
- Girls Fall Training was a new addition this year and was a homerun. Brooke White helped organize this and we had 40 girls training at the Super Rink, and 39 training in Burnsville/Shakopee. The clinic had the girls skating 1-2 times per week and focused on skill development for 14 sessions. The group was mainly made up of 15 year old girls who were looking for development to augment other things that they were doing (many of them games-only leagues). We are looking to expand this next Fall with additional groups added.
- On the boys side, a new adjustment we made due to Covid-19 was to modify the Body Contact Clinics into the "Bantam Prep" clinics. Many of the same concepts were covered (i.e. Angling, safety etc.) and some of the Body Contact activities that required the players to be in close contact for a prolonged amount of time were adjusted. These were a hit and although similar, were different enough to fit in better with current health guidelines.

## **Association Coaching Clinics:**

Here are most of the Association Clinics set for this Fall.

Alexandria = Body Contact Clinics for all Alec PW, Bantam, 12u, and 15u players (September)

Bloomington Kennedy = Coaches ADM Clinic and Player Clinic to follow (October)

Bloomington Jefferson = Skills and Body Contact for Squirt, PW, Bantam (September)

Burnsville/AV = Body Contact for all Bantams (September)

Eden Prairie = Body Contact for Bantams (September) and with all teams in October

Moose Lake = Coaches ADM and Player Skills to follow (October)

Rochester = Coaches ADM (date tbd)

Roseau = Coaches ADM and Body Contact (date tbd)

Rosemount = Bantam Body Contact (dates tbd)  
Sauk Rapids = Coaches ADM and Mite/Squirt Skills (October)  
Sauk Rapids = Body Contact PW and Bantam (October)  
St. Cloud = Coaches ADM – Mite and Squirt Skills (date tbd)  
St. Louis Park = PW and Bantam Skills (September)  
Tartan = Coaches ADM (date tbd)  
Walker = Coaches ADM (date tbd)  
Winona/La Crescent = Defense Skills and Body Contact (September)

**Chevy Clinic:**

This is set for Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup> in Moorhead. Exact times tbd. We have a lead coach run these, and then work with Moorhead Hockey to get assistant coaches.

**Girls Gold Rush Camp:**

This was cancelled in 2020 due to Covid-19. We have plans to have this again in 2021.

**Never Too Late Camp:**

This was cancelled in 2020 due to Covid-19. We have plans to have this again in 2020.

**4 Corners:**

This is tentatively set for January. This is an event that we're waiting on to see if it fits in well with MDH Guidelines on mixing teams from different areas.

**Honor The Game Tournament:**

This is set for December. More information coming out soon on this. We just were able to get the ice locked in for TRIA Rink for this (and other events at TRIA). Most likely this will be the December 4-6 weekend.

**Little Wild:**

The Fall session of the Little Wild was cancelled for 2020. Plans are in motion for both April, 2021 and September, 2021 editions of this.

**Ice Bowl**

This also looks good with TRIA Rink to hold this in 2021. Exact dates will be set this week but looking like the weekend of the SuperBowl. We most likely will keep this to Squirt C and 10B levels this year.

**Tier 1:**

I organized and facilitated the Tier 1 Training Camp weekend at TRIA Rink in August. It was held over the August 7-9<sup>th</sup> weekend and it was the official kick-off for the League. It went very smoothly and for the most part, the teams and coaches were considerate and good about following the Tier 1 League protocols (no locker rooms, coaches masked, arriving with gear on 15 minutes prior to sessions etc.). It

was a good way to start the season as it gave families, coaches, and players a preview of how Minnesota Hockey would like things to look like during the Fall.

Also coupled with the Training Camp was a mandatory Coaches' Meeting prior to the Training Camp. We did these via Zoom and had good attendance...actually better attendance than when we've done these in person! These calls covered:

- Season schedule
- Coach expectations
- Covid-19 protocols
- League focus
- Player Development

Both the Youth and Girls sides have a Player Development Director. The Girls has Jamie Kenyon and the Youth has Bill McClellan. Jamie and Bill are tasked with staying connected with the Tier 1 Coaches on how their player development is going, what we want practices to look like, and support for the coaches. I talk to Bill and Jamie about every 10 days to 2 weeks to check-in and see how things are going for them.

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