

## **6: Portage Minor Hockey Board of Directors Reports 2023-24**

**President:** *Travis Foster*

Our season began with our annual Hockey Development Program run by Blaine Boyle. HDP gives players the opportunity of four skates to 'shake the rust off' before the season starts and before tryouts in U11 and U13.

U7 -our initiation group of players ran as normal from Mid-October to end of February. PMHA formed four teams that were looked after by a group of coordinators. Over the past few years our numbers in this age group have been decreasing. We continue to look at ways of attracting new youngsters to hockey at this level.

U9 had 4 teams and was run out of the Central Plains league. We had many players in this group that were new to hockey. It was great to see the amount of improvement over the season in this age group.

U11 had 3 teams and was also run out of the Central Plains league. All three Portage teams finished in the top half of the Central Plains league and competed for the league banner, however they came up short against St. Eustache.

A double rostered Gold and Silver team were also formed over the season to compete at Provincials where both teams had some success.

U13 ran their gold team out of the Pembina Valley league where they finished in the bottom half but definitely had success stories throughout the season.

PMHA had two U13 bronze teams also play in the Pembina Valley league. Both teams were quite even throughout the season.

U15 had two teams play their seasons in Pembina Valley this year. In the end we had one team battling for A side while the other battled for B side championships. Both came up short in the final rounds but was great hockey to watch!

Female hockey continues to grow rapidly in PMHA. We once again were able to form our own U9 and U11 female teams this year to play out of the Eastern Female league. Both teams had success throughout the season. We hope that the Eastern Female league continues strong.

As for tournaments, PMHA once again worked alongside the Portage Cup coordinators in running our four annual tournaments, (U7, U9, U11 and U13). We continue to receive very positive feedback on how well run and organized the tournaments are.

Once again PMHA applied to host provincials this past spring. We were chosen to host U11AA Coed, as well as the U11 Female A and B Provincial tournament the prior weekend. Working through a few logistics it was great to see us host on two separate weekends.

Portage also saw our U11 Silver, U13 gold, U13 Silver and U15A teams compete for Provincials in different host cities around the province.

As president I continued my dedication to the Central Plains Minor Committee and the Central Plains AAA Council by attending all their meetings and keeping PMHA in the loop of CP happenings.

For development, PMHA continues to offer coaches the option of using our coach mentors to run up to three practices throughout the year. We also held two PD Development days where kids were able to come on a PD school day and do hockey in a camp like setting.

Lots of development skates continued to run apart from PMHA. Power skating, breakfast clubs, Female morning skates, 3 on 3, and summer camps continue to be an option for more hockey. PMHA continues to promote these activities to keep our kids developing into better hockey players.

In the off season last summer we continued to work with the Dreams Come True Program offered by Hockey Canada which helped suit up 30 kids in hockey gear who hadn't had the opportunity to play before. The organization also paid for a large portion of these player fees at time of registration. In the end we had an additional 25 players in different age levels play hockey this year for the first time.

Overall I believe the season was a huge success. I want to take this time to thank all the coaches, managers, board members, parents, and especially the players for all their hard work and dedication over the season. See you next year!

### ***Vice President, Mitch Brennan***

To start the season, we once again partnered with Professional Skill Development to run all of our on-ice Hockey Development Program sessions in September as well as the Evaluation skates for each age group. We also hired Tim Morison Goalie School to run 3 fall Goalie Development sessions. These partnerships worked very well and we will look to replicate that for next season.

This year marked our second consecutive season of offering our PMHA Goalie Development Program that ran throughout the season. We again partnered with Tim Morison Goalie School to facilitate this and offered 10 75-minute sessions at a cost of \$425 per goalie. The program cost us approximately \$5,900 for the season. We had 14 goalies participate, however some were partial registrations and some could only attend a limited number of sessions. Once again the program will run at a small deficit, but PMHA feels like this is a very worthwhile cost to endure each year in order to provide development opportunities to our young goaltenders.

One of the key improvements we made this year was finding a permanent ice slot to hold these sessions on Monday nights, and we feel that is critical to the success of the program going forward.

Our "guest coaches" program was once again offered to all head coaches and they had the ability to request PMHA's Skill Coaches assist with practices. While we did have some good participation in this, overall we feel like this program could be better utilized. We can do a better job next year in communicating to coaches and ensuring they are using this resource to its fullest extent.

### ***Secretary, Saima Klippenstein***

The 2023-2024 season has been our second full season of post-pandemic hockey. This year, the board held ten meetings averaging approximately 2 hours per session from May 2023 through April 2024. Board meeting minutes are available to review on the PMHA website.

In addition to directing communications, booking and documenting Board meetings, I attended the Hockey Manitoba "Season Opener" on behalf of PMHA. Participation in Hockey Manitoba programming is a requirement for boards to maintain Hockey Manitoba funding. This year, there was an increase in inquiries regarding minor hockey operations. It is encouraging to see parents engaged.

### ***Treasurer, Lisa Casper***

The complete financial report for the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 is available by email request to [pmhatreasurer@outlook.com](mailto:pmhatreasurer@outlook.com).

PMHA had a good year compared to the prior years where Covid-19 restrictions were in place. At the end of the 2022-23 hockey season, we generated an excess of ~\$7,500. Reasons for this include increased player registration numbers, increased fundraising efforts, and working with Portage Cup to assist in hosting numerous tournaments throughout the season.

### ***Registrar, Maria Nunn***

- Attended a couple of HCR training sessions by zoom
- Processed 6 Change of Address Applications
- Processed 9 IIHF Transfer
- Involved in helping to complete many Chance to Play registration forms

Division	# of Registrations	Last Year	% from previous year
U7	44	36	122.22
U9 co-ed	57	45	126.67
U9 Female	16	13	123.08
U11 co-ed	39	39	100
U11 Female	18	12	150
U13 Co-ed	45	44	102.27
U15 Co-ed	38	22	172.73
<b>Total Registrations</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>121.80%</b>

**Rostered Teams:**

- 4 x U7
- 5 x U9 (including 1 female)
- 6 x U11 (including 1 female and 2 double rostered)
- 4 x U13 (including 1 double rostered)
- 3 x U15 (including 1 double rostered)
- 2 x Extended season

***Fundraising, Tori Nadeau***

This year we had a new sign up process for ORN that went well during registration, minus a few glitches. There were a few issues that would need to be addressed/fixed in order to do the online sign up in the future. There will be a few changes this upcoming year for when sign up night will be. New ideas have been brought up for different fundraising opportunities that will be discussed with the new board. Unknown what profit made from ORN, but the presentation will be tonight. Thanks for an overall great season.

***Equipment Manager, Kyle Pettinger***

For the 2023-24 season the PMHA board was again busy trying to upgrade equipment, both in goalie and player development. This year we purchased 3 rebound passers for use in practices. We were able to upgrade our shooter tutors with a more user friendly version for coaches, we also continued to use the puck boxes which worked extremely well for us this year. Also working with Champs Corner we were able to use a puck exchange program to avoid added costs in replacing pucks for practices. We also participated again in the Atomic hockey program for U11 with McDonald's restaurants, kids received a jersey, socks, toque and other swag. We also added some white jerseys for U11, being that we've seen increased numbers in both the female and coed.

That covers most of our equipment improvements this year. Next year we'll look to upgrade and add practice tools for our coaches to use in order to help develop our players.

## ***Community Relations Director, Dan Bolton***

- Social Media
  - o Facebook Page
    - We currently have 357 followers.
    - We have a post reach of 4,924,
  - o Instagram
    - We've made over 220 posts.
    - We have 282 followers.
  - o Twitter
    - Pretty limited interaction, especially since it's no longer tied to the Meta Business Suite, we have 131 followers.
- Email
  - o We currently have 413 subscribers to our emails.
- Survey
  - o Received 100 completed responses.
  - o Approx 40% response rate.
- Clothing E-store
  - o Keystone and the Screen Door Combined sales of the two was over \$10,100 net sales.
  - o Keystone and Screen door will donate 10% and 5% respectively of the gross revenues back to PMHA.
- Portage Terriers
  - o Arranged some Timbit players to scrimmage during an intermission.
  - o Helped Terriers marketing director to find a "7 th man" throughout their regular season from PMHA membership.
  - o Had some Terriers out for some scrimmages and practices with the kids throughout the season.
  - o participated in the Teddy Bear Toss Clean up.
- Tournaments
  - o Worked closely and communicated regularly with the Portage Cup guys to ensure tournaments ran successfully and that Portage Minor Hockey was represented well.
  - o Hosted 7 weekends of tournaments ranging from U7 – U13 and including Female, Coed, Bronze, Silver, and Gold teams respectively.
    - Hosted 182 teams from 3 provinces.
    - PMHA's portion of the gate was \$10,227.

## ***Risk Manager, Clint Martin***

Thank you to the current board members for their encouragement and support this season as well as that of the PMHA Membership & Team Bench staff.  
Coaching Applications – started receiving Coaching Applications at the end of July and had all League positions appointed by mid-October in lots of time to start the season.

Coaches Meeting – held the annual Coaches Meeting on Monday September 25th, well attended by most of the appointed head coaches and some assistants/team managers. Every effort was made to cover all pertinent information for coaches.

Child Abuse Registry Checks & Coaching Certifications – Checks were completed & cleared. Process made easier with the purchase of a copier/printer for the PMHA Coaches room @ Stride Place. Coaching certification deadline was extended again this season with exemption for some courses which helped everyone attain the required certifications & be rostered on time. Continued work with Coaches to encourage the usage of Hockey Canada App as well as signing up for additional Hockey MB Coaching Courses. Plan to discuss mentorship program for Coaches & potential for age category coordinators with the Board in 2024/25.

Complaints/Incidents – A limited number of incidents in the 2023/24 season, however some that were very serious in nature and have required action be taken. All of which PMHA resolved internally through the Conflict Resolution Chart with the cooperation of Team Bench staff, the Board of Directors and PMHA membership. Continued work with Team Bench Staff to limit such incidents going forward.

Survey – Lots of valuable feedback in the PMHA survey results to take into consideration going forward in regards to coach appointment and training which will be discussed next year. One thing to keep in mind for all is that this is a Minor Hockey Association & our Coaches are Volunteers.

Summary – Great year working with the Board, Coaches, Managers, Members & Players of PMHA...looking forward to the 2024/25 hockey season.

### ***Female Rep, Jennifer Askin***

- Happy to report another very successful season of female hockey with PMHA.
- We had 57 female players register, up from 42 last year. Great to see this increase. 40 players played on a female team this year, either with PMHA or Oakville/St. E for the CP U13 team. 17 played U7 or coed.
- PMHA had a U9 and a U11 female. Both teams had a great season. U9 winning the Championship and U11 finishing 4th in the A division.
- These teams played in the Eastern Manitoba Female Hockey League.
- The Central Plains Capitals Mentorship didn't work this year, scheduling issues with the practices and available players. We will definitely look into this program again for the upcoming season.
- PMHA hosted the U11 Female A and B Hockey Manitoba Provincials Feb. 23-25/2024.
- Attended the CP Female Committee meeting Sept. 16/23 and continued correspondence with the committee through email for the season.
- Also attended the EMFHL AGM Spring 2023.