

## **Pee Wee/U13 Report for the 2021/2022 Season Submitted by Lindsay Wolfe, Division Manager**

This season was a fairly normal hockey season, I felt. We were able to start on time with our season and manage little cases of covid in our division. Families were great about health checks and keeping kids home when they weren't well. We were able to attend some away tournaments in between provincial shut downs and hold our annual year end tournament within our division. Having completed the U13 Season previous 2020/2021, I felt equipped to manage this season well despite the pandemic and whatever came our way. Before the season officially began and after evaluations, I held a meeting with our coaches and together with the evaluations, we picked teams blindly based on those numbers, positions etc. That meeting was a great success and I felt the teams were quite balanced myself. We did make a few adjustments which went over well for most parents/players.

### **Evaluations in September:**

We were able to do evaluations in the beginning to help us place the kids onto what turned out to be 4 teams this season. We had some of the old paper evaluations to give the incoming coaches to help them out and access to the online ones. Luckily most coaches are familiar with these kids since they have been volunteering for numerous years now. I had coaches send me their evaluations and put them into a google sheet. I then wrote everyone's names and scores on recipe cards for the choosing of teams.

*Recommendations: I do feel like we could be better equipped to provide the previous seasons evaluations for the incoming coaches each season and for those coaches who didn't do season ending evaluations.*

### **Season Format:**

This season we were able to run like a normal season of hockey. We had 4 teams in our division. We started out with too much ice as we expected more players but turned some ice back in due to there just being too much for four teams. Next season I will look to keep a development ice slot for those wanting more focused drills. We gave that back this season due to lack of commitment of coaches at the 4pm ice time.

Throughout the season some of my coaches didn't like sharing ice times for practices, and didn't practice as a large group but kept to their end of the ice. We also had a few issues with our practice slots turning into more of a scrimmage versus what they were intended for, to practice. I'd like to ensure that next season we use our ice as intended.

*Recommendations: Make sure coaches know that practices are for practicing and not*

scrimmaging for the full time. That is what game days are for. Make sure they are well equipped with practice plans, etc.

Recruiting Coaches and Management team:

We didn't have any issues getting coaches this season at all. We had approx 2 people per team for coaching. We didn't have any issues recruiting managers for the most part either. It is handy after a couple seasons into this position knowing who is willing to volunteer for what and start this process early. We did have one team who thought they needed 6 people to manage a team. That was unnecessary really, to many people when really only one person ended up doing all of the work. Recommendations: Start the recruiting process early for coaches to ensure they are qualified and ready to go. Information on seminars, online courses, CRC, etc would be handy to have completed ahead so there are no problems tracking it down into our season. It would also be nice to have outside help when creating/evaluating teams. Finally, IF these volunteers knew the commitment level of these positions that would be great. Sort of like a job description of sorts.

Away Tournaments:

Not all of my teams got away tournaments this year due to shutdowns with COVID but 3 of 4 did. . Recommendations: none

Home Tournament:

We had a great year end tournament at Glacier Gardens/Sports Centre this year. Myself and three parents organized the tournament ourselves and made a great team. We had our 4 home teams and 8 away teams. We were late to start the planning of this tournament due to COVID but finally the restrictions got lifted and we could go ahead. We had great feedback on our tournament from the visiting teams and home teams. All four of our Comox teams played for all medals. It was a lot of fun. Recommendations: none

Exhibition Ice:

We hosted Campbell River for quite a few slots rotating with our Comox teams this season due to their rink strike/closure. We also hosted Powell River once, then they were nervous of traveling over here due to COVID in our community. Understandable. The downfall is they aren't as fortunate to receive their ice in advance like we are so

when they invite us for a game we had already had a schedule. Recommendation: Keep planning these and reaching out to other rinks, it's a great experience for the kids.

All Star Tournament (Powell River):

We did get into this tournament and went through the try out process and selected a team this season. We ended up with 15 players and 2 goalies. They only take a few teams so it's important to apply early, although this season due to COVID they were late to release the information. They have done a great job organizing it this season. We did have some coaching drama this season with this group, and then a coach dropped out with his child. We also had some issues when kids didn't make the team and lots of questions surrounding that. Recommendations: Have outside evaluators make this team.

AP Process:

We did have a few AP requests for Peewee kids who AP'd to Rep B throughout the year. This was a great experience for these kids. We also had one player AP to Bantam. Recommendations: get this going soon into the season. We have a lot of coaches who don't believe in the Rep program and aren't keen to recommend players to you.

Year End Evaluations:

Year end evaluations weren't done this season. We didn't have any direction as to how these should be completed. Last season an online document was created, but unsure if this was still in place this season as a previous coaching coordinator had set that up. Also, barely anyone completed them last season. Recommendations: If we are able to put something in place and make that known early in the season for our coaches, they may be more inclined to add their comments. An online live document might be handy.