

Director, 2nd VP – 2020/2021 Year End Report

This year hockey was impacted greatly by Covid-19. However, as an organization we were able to ensure that we had appropriate safety protocols in place throughout the season that ensured children were able to be on the ice, develop and connect with peers. As a board we met throughout the summer to ensure programming could be offered to our community and by providing the province and city with required safety plan. I was able to complete Rep Coach Interviews with Peter Hay, AMHA Player Development Director and Al Cyr, AMHA Coach Director. Our non parent coaches for our Rep teams were as follows:

U11 A1: Les Williams
U13 A1: Travis Veldhoen
U13A2: Steven Ahuja
U15A1: Chris Price
U18A1: Randy Zinn

Rep Try Outs were also impacted this year by Covid-19 with changes in procedure due to the restrictions created by the Public Health Order that resulted in at times last minute changes to how organized sports could proceed. We were able to keep our format fairly similar by starting off try outs for players with the combine testing component, followed by Inter-squad games. We were unable to complete the Round Robin portion of try outs but despite this we were able to complete our Rep Rosters. This year due to Covid, there was a period of time where before moving into our Inter-Squad games we operated in Cohorts and each cohort in the Rep Division had equal ice from our Division A1 or A2 coaches.

I continued to work with each Division Director throughout the season to ensure assistance was provided in any capacity that they required. Thank you to each Division Director for their hard work this year – from the start of Dust of the Rust camps to the end of the season.

I want to say thank you to the parents who volunteered during the try outs to fill positions at the check in table, safety, on the bench and as Covid Officer. Parents and Team Officials worked hard to ensure that the players continued to develop this year and keep the players engaged despite limited games.

This year AMHA had Peter Hay and his development team provide association development. Peter and his coaches ensured top end player development as well as mentoring our coaches as they also participated in the on ice sessions. Feedback received from players and their parents was positive. Peter was organized, efficient and communicated any new changes implemented due to Covid – 19 and player safety quickly to his team of coaches. AMHA is fortunate to have Peter lead our development.

There were limited discipline issues this year and therefore this did not require as significant amount of time as it has in past seasons. However, when issues were brought to our attention, this was addressed.

As this season ends, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all coaches and team officials for their commitment to the players throughout this pandemic. Despite the frustration and uncertainty faced, quality coaching and programming continued. A significant amount of work is required to ensure that our players have fun and success and this does not go unnoticed by AMHA. We would not be able to run such a successful minor hockey program without your assistance.

It has been an honor representing AMHA as 2nd VP. Thank you

Mandy Gill
2nd VP
Abbotsford Minor Hockey Association