



PGMHA Year End Summary

As a successful 2018/19 season comes to a close, we are happy with the progress that was made this season and are excited with the challenges still to come.

Beginning last season, the Board began working with BC Hockey to conduct the Observation Project, to help guide us forward as an Association as we continue to grow. We have since received the report and have released the summary provided by BC Hockey. Work has already begun to implement some of the suggested improvements and we plan to continue to work to transform our Association.

We have purchased TEAMSNAPE to run our new modern website, as well as our new Online Registration. One of the most common comments from membership over the last several seasons was a move to Online Registration. With TEAMSNAPE partnering with Hockey Canada, we finally have an all in one vendor that can properly serve our needs. In addition to the Website and Online Registration, it will also assist with team formation and management and allow us to greatly enhance communication throughout the season.

In a continuation of an effort in simplifying processes we have enabled online Criminal Record checks. This will make it an easier and more convenient process for both volunteers and office staff to attain and monitor.

We made the decision to utilize Survey Monkey for our year end surveys. It was a huge success as we saw a tremendous increase in overall responses. The information is an important tool as we assess the season and start to plan for next year.

We have started our own Twitter account @pgmha with guidance from Cariboo Cougars GM Trevor Sprague. As our following continues to grow, we hope it will allow us to increase our online presence, convey success stories, informational links and any major news.

While we have room to improve, we have started to work on expanding and utilizing our local partnerships with BC Hockey, the Cariboo Cougars, PG Cougars, PGSS and Spruce Kings. As we continue to grow and progress the resources our local partners are able to provide will be invaluable.

Our Association Head Coach-House Eric Henderson continued to oversee improvements with our Recreational divisions and development. We introduced Goaltender Development/Enhancement program for our Atom and Novice goalies, which consisted of 10 on-ice sessions for each group. This program was put together by Rob Brown and his selected assistants, and was an overwhelming success. Both these programs will be delivered again next season.

Our PeeWee and Bantam aged goalies were able to attend sessions throughout the year with Cougars Alumni Ty Edmonds lending his insight to help develop our young goalies. We look forward to continuing our work with Ty in the future.

Our PeeWee Development ice was well attended throughout the season. These ice times were designed to give exposure to higher paced practices and additional skill development for aspiring Rep players. Gerry Brideau and Darcy Nicholson were tasked with designing and running practice and did an excellent job working with the players.

The evaluation process continued to evolve with us continuing to utilize our team coaches to assist with the process. After refining the Evaluation forms last season, we continued to have the coaches track the players monthly progress and provide an end of season summary. Their assistance is vital as we plan for fall evaluations and work to further incorporate them into our evaluation process both on and off ice.

The BC Hockey Long Term Player Development program, was implemented throughout our Crossice Divisions. The program saw teams and their coaches work together in different skill groups and stations on the ice rather than individual teams. This gave players and coaches the opportunity to work and learn together regardless of jersey colour and achieve success in their own skillset. Nearing the end of the season Atoms Transition ice times were held for the first time for those Novice players moving up to Atoms for the 2019/2020 season. A key part of BC Hockey's Cross Ice program, these sessions gave players exposure to key aspects of full ice hockey, such as positioning, off sides, line changes and face offs.

We also began to trial the Hockey Canada Atoms Pathway program. Similar to the Crossice program the focus is on combined practices with full ice skating drills and skill stations in practice. The goal of the Atoms Pathway is to continue develop all players where they are able to be challenged and feel success at their own pace by modifying the drills as the different skill groups go through the drills.

Our annual tournaments were again a huge success, owed to the various tournament organizers who put in countless hours to make sure they were successful. Without their time and dedication these tournaments would not be possible. A new tool for the tournaments was the purchase of Debit Squares, which allowed tournaments to take debit and credit card payments at the tables and greatly helped to increase revenue.

From our Rep Teams, the season saw a lot of development throughout the year across all of our teams. We had 4 of our teams qualify for Provincials with our Bantam Female Cougars taking Bronze. There still remains room for improvement throughout our Rep program and with the season concluded we will begin our search for a new Association Head Coach who will be tasked with assessing and refining the program.

The Female divisions had various challenges during the season. As an Association we are greatly aware of the challenges with growing and developing Female hockey. We have applied to BC Hockey to host Esso Fun Days and a Female Jamboree for this coming fall to help grow participation numbers. We are looking to expand development ice times and continue to assess the best ways to support our current players while also attracting new players.

We would like to thank all of our coaches and volunteers that help make our association run. We would also like to acknowledge and thank Deanna Mcleod and Kris Henderson for filling positions part way through the season as other members stepped down. They have both been huge assets to the board, with Deanna working to implement TEAMSnap and Kris advising through the process with BC Hockey.

Where the season was overall very successful there remain challenges to overcome but we feel we are headed on the right path forward and are excited about the future of PGMHA.