

The female hockey season was a huge success for MHMH in 2016/17 as we introduced three female teams at the initiation, novice and atom levels. By doing so we increased the number of female players within our organization bringing our total to 78 registered players. This was an increase of 24 players from the previous season, which included 17 females on the Bantam AAA team out of our area. The Bantam AAA team no longer exists due to restructuring from Hockey Alberta. Overall the increase of local female players was double from the previous season. Our initiation girls team enjoyed a successful season practicing together and playing some exhibition games against other female teams as well as the Irvine tournament. Our novice girls participated in the Novice 7 boys city league and also played exhibition games against other girls. They also successfully hosted a female tournament this year. Finally our Atom girls competed in the Atom 9 boys city league and participated in a female tournament as well as provincials. Overall all three teams had a great season and fantastic coaching!

This next season will continue to move our female program in a positive direction as we are hoping to have a novice girls team that plays in a southern Alberta league as well as our boys city league. We are hoping to have 2 atom girls teams which will participate in the boys city league and the Rocky Mountain Female Hockey League respectively. We also hope to have our first Female Pee Wee team which will also be part of the Rocky Mountain League. Puck Power will continue and as will the \$250 rate for any first year female player to try and add depth and numbers to our program. It truly is an exciting time to be a female hockey player in the city of Medicine Hat and across Canada as the number of girls participating continues to grow along with the incredible opportunities available post secondary!

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