



Bantam City League Year End Directors' Report 2019/2020 Season

Director: Mark Parsons

The Bantam City League consisted of (65) total players this season. Of these players, (27) were born in 2005, (35) born in 2006, (2) underage born in 2007, and (1) overage born in 2004. There were (4) female players in the division, who were able to be placed on the same team for the duration of the year. The division was split up in to five teams for the year, Knights, Stars, Leafs, Oilers, and Hurricanes. Each team had one goalie, and the two underage players were moved up from the Pee Wee City division as there was a shortage in goalies for the year.

Prior to the season starting a conditioning skate was held, followed by each player participating in two evaluation games. The head coaches and those signed up for assistant coaches, evaluated all players of the two games.

The teams were selected by each of the team's coaches on October 2, 2019. The draft was setup in an effort to ensure even teams throughout the year. This was not fully achieved this year, as one team appeared to be stronger than the others. A decision was made to have slightly less practice throughout the season, but each team saw full ice practices and minimal shared practices. This change revealed greater development in skating, breakouts, and positional play by most teams.

The season ran from September 22, 2019, to its' unfortunate early end on March 13, 2020 due to Hockey Canada mandates surrounding COVID-19. There were two round robin playoff games remaining at the time of season end. The standings at the time of season end were used to determine the league champions, as the final round robin games would have not changed who was in first spot. The Bantam City Knights were awarded as league champions, although not in a fashion that any team wanted.

The Bantam City Home Tournament ran from January 31, to February 2, 2020. There were two final games, one for each pool, and out of the 4 teams playing, 3 of them were Medicine Hat teams. The tournament saw 11 out of town teams attending and by all accounts it was a great weekend.

Points to consider for next season:

- Evaluate partnership with Irvine Minor Hockey and Redcliff Minor Hockey, as numerous players were released to play at those locations and reduced the numbers for the division in Medicine Hat.
- Attempt to have slightly larger rosters and six teams, if possible. Numerous issues throughout the year with have reduced numbers on each team.
- Continue to develop goalies in minor hockey to ensure greater numbers still playing at older ages.
- Adjust draft process in an attempt to ensure more balanced teams through greater coach involvement.

In Summary, I believe that this season was a success. Many players saw great improvement and development throughout the year, while keeping fun as the driving force behind the year. As always, each season is only as strong as its volunteers, and it was evident this year that many good people stepped up and filled necessary positions to make the year what it was. The end of the season was not one we all planned or wanted to see, and I am hoping that everyone stays strong and healthy in these difficult times. Thank you to all on be-half of our hockey players,

Mark Parsons
(MHMHA Bantam City Director)