

MRO GIRLS HOCKEY 2009-2010 REPORT

The 2009-2010 girls hockey season was the 14th for MRO hockey. In total there are seven girls' teams in MRO: two in Atom (A, B), two in Pee wee (A, B) and one A team in Bantam, Midget, and Junior. This total represents one of the highest for a zone in the Lac St-Louis region. There were also a group of pre-novice/ novice girls who played in the mini-board program ensuring a flow of young players into the girl's hockey program.

During the regular season the Atoms played in the Ligue Inter-Regionale Feminin (L.R.I.F) while the other five teams played in the Lac St-Louis regional league. Both the Atom B and the Juniors finished first overall during the regular season. During the playoffs both Atom teams won the Lac St-Louis Regionals and the Atom A also won the LRIF championship. Congratulations go out to head coaches of the Atoms, Ron Saad (B) and Bruno DeSerres (A) and their staff for their season long success. It was a great turnaround for the Atom teams from a year ago when both teams only won one game all year long! The other teams all finished strong in the playoffs with at times playing their best hockey of the season! The Juniors lost in the finals in shootouts!

Six teams went to tournaments this year, both in Quebec and Ontario. The Pee wee A team won the Gloucester Tournament in November. Congratulations to Francois Marseille, his staff and players.

Although there were many highlights on the ice perhaps the biggest one happened off ice. At the year end girl's banquet attended by more than 200 persons, we were honoured to also have in attendance Olympic womens hockey gold medal winner from TMR, Catherine Ward. Catherine spoke on her hockey experiences, and posed with the girls for pictures, taking the time for one on one conversations. Thank you goes out to Nick Stephens for his efforts and organization with this event. In the new year a banner will be hung in TMR to celebrate Catherine's gold medal.

For the first time in the 14 year history of the program I felt that the girls hockey was not treated fairly by MRO hockey but I am confident that going forward this will be resolved. There are many challenges coming from the region with this program that having internal ones also puts the fragile program in peril.

In closing I would like to thank all the players, parents, managers, and coaches for making this hockey season an enjoyable one for all.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Favretto