

NOVICE REPORT

2009-2010

I would like to start this report by thanking all the parents for their patience and support throughout my first season as Novice Hockey coordinator. This year there were 90 players registered in the Novice Program. These 90 players allowed us to form 6 teams; 2 in each of the groups A, B and C. The pre-season began with several evaluation sessions by our coordinating team headed by Luc Rivard. The Novice level was the last group to have its teams formed as their season began later than that of the other levels. This did necessitate an immediate challenge to search for the proper candidates to coach and manage the respective teams. In addition, many of the candidates were at their first season in organized hockey and were very concerned over the amount of commitment and responsibilities that such positions would entail. Furthermore, the late selection of the coaches did not allow the coaches and managers the necessary time to enroll their respective teams in Hockey tournaments. Only the 2 Novice A teams were enrolled in Hockey tournaments this year.

I would like to thank all the coaches and managers for their exceptional commitment to maintain the enthusiasm and attendance throughout this season. Special thanks to our Novice C teams as this year was the return of the MRO Novice C in the EHL League. There were issues concerning attendance in the past and the possibility that this may re-occur this year. All our teams achieved great success and finished the season either on the average or above average in the final EHL standings. All our teams advanced beyond the first round of the playoffs with several teams reaching the finals in either the EHL playoffs or the Regional playoffs. Congratulations to the Devils C team for their success as Regional Champions.

Special thanks to our technical team for their weekly development sessions. Several parents have commended this program and have equated the success of our teams to this program.

CONCLUSION:

It is important to note that many of the parents of Novice players are at their first experience of organized hockey and may be uninformed as to what to expect from a hockey season. It would be beneficial to maintain a proper communication channel that should inform and educate the parents as to the challenges of the hockey season specifically the effects on their weekends.

We should attempt to set-up the teams sooner. This will allow for a timely selection of coaches, assistants and managers. These individuals will then have the opportunity to select at least one tournament (maximum 3) for their respective teams. Tournaments provide the teams with additional hockey while encountering teams outside of our hockey league.

If not, then we should pre-register for hockey tournaments to help out the less experienced Novice coaches and managers.

Thanks

George Samaan

Novice Hockey