



Rink Report 2009-2010



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NOHA E-Bulletin
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Would you like to play for Team Canada at the World Junior Championships one day?

The NOHA Under 17 Program of Excellence is the first step in the Hockey Canada Program of Excellence. There are three steps in the Program with the first step being the Under 17 Program, then the Under 18 Program, and finally the World Junior team. It is an excellent opportunity for all players whether you are from a small centre or a large centre to showcase your talents against each other. All players born in 1994 have an equal opportunity to showcase their hockey skills. The NOHA will be conducting the 2010 Program of Excellence (Under 17) Camps during the month of April 2010. Applications have been mailed to all players born in 1994. **Deadline for applications is February 5, 2010. We also require Staff to help us out.** Please visit the NOHA website under Development to obtain registration forms.

CONSTITUTIONAL AND REMINDER ITEMS OF THE WEEK NOHA TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS HOST SITES- 2011

Requests to host the 2011 NOHA Tournament of Champions must be submitted in writing to the NOHA Office by February 1st, 2010. The application to host is located on the NOHA website under Tournament of Champions. This is a change for the 2011 NOHA Tournament of Champions hosting as it was changed at the 2009 NOHA AGM.

R.9.17. The Tournament of Champions in all categories will be held in the month of March. The schedule will be Novice and Pee wee on the first weekend, Atom and Bantam on the second weekend, and Midget on the third weekend. Requests to host will be received by the Executive Director until February 1st of the year prior to hosting. The Host Association will be announced at the annual AGM and posted on the NOHA website by June 15th.

HOCKEY CANADA AND ITS 13 MEMBER BRANCHES START 2010 BY SENDING OUT A SPECIAL GIFT TO MORE THAN 215,000 MINOR HOCKEY PLAYERS IN CANADA

Calgary, Alta. - Hockey Canada, in partnership with its 13 member branches, announced on Monday it is sending out special gifts this week to more than 215,000 minor hockey players under 10 years old who have registered to play in Canada for the 2009-10 season.

This is the third-straight year that Hockey Canada and its 13 member branches are connecting with their grassroots membership by mailing out gift packages to hundreds of thousands of children who are taking to the ice across the country. This year, more than 215,000 children will receive the free gift, which includes a comic strip featuring Hockey Canada's official mascot, Puckster, and a personalized workbook filled with a variety of fun activities and skills spotlights.

"We are very excited to be partnering with the 13 regional hockey branches in Canada to send this very special package to minor hockey players in Canada under 10 years old," said Hockey Canada president and CEO Bob Nicholson. "On behalf of Hockey Canada and its regional branches, we welcome these youngsters to the great game of hockey and hope that many more will join our team next season."

"Everyone who gets this package is a member of a bigger team, Team Canada," said Ken Corbett, chair of the Hockey Canada Board of Directors. "When these young players watch other players represent Canada at the international level, they should remember that they are part of the same team as them - the Hockey Canada team."

In total, there are more than 550,000 children who are registered in hockey through Hockey Canada's 13 member branches and its member minor hockey associations. These young players benefit in many ways by participating in the sport, from having fun and building friendships to learning lessons about confidence, fair play, good sportsmanship and teamwork.

Hockey Canada has developed this special mail-out for children with the help of all 13 regional branches to communicate with the base of its membership and remind minor hockey players that they are an important part of Hockey Canada - just like members of Team Canada such as Jarome Iginla, Sidney Crosby, Hayley Wickenheiser and Kim St-Pierre. This year is an especially exciting season to be involved in hockey, with Canada's Men's Olympic Team and National Women's Team to go for gold at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games next month and Canada's National Sledge Team to compete at the 2010 Paralympic Winter Games in March.

The Hockey Canada gift package for minor hockey players includes:

- a personalized Hockey Canada activity book featuring fun hockey-related activities and skills spotlights such as Shoot Like Wickenheiser
- a letter from Hockey Canada's official mascot, Puckster
- a comic about Puckster's hockey adventures for parents to read with their children
- a Puckster pin
- Team Canada and Canadian NHL team stickers
- a pull-out poster of Canada's three national teams

Hockey Canada has also re-launched its popular kids website. The website features everything from videos, games and quizzes to an interactive hockey card builder, hockey tips and information about Team Canada. Check it out at www.hockeycanada.ca/kids, where an online version of the workbook and comic will also be available for download.

Minor hockey players between the ages of four and 10 who are registered with Hockey Canada but do not receive a mail-out package by Saturday, January 30 can have their parents email kids@hockeycanada.ca or their member branch to request the free gift or to get packages for friends that may want to register for minor hockey in the future. Please provide the player's name, his or her club team, the name of the minor hockey association and a mailing address.

For more information on Hockey Canada, visit www.hockeycanada.ca.

PENALTY FREE SWEEPSTAKES CONTEST - Official Entry forms for the 2010 Penalty Free Sweepstakes are available at www.hdco.on.ca - *Play to Win...Play Penalty Free!*



If you have any news that you would like to share with the rest of the Northern Ontario Hockey Community or you would like to be added to our distribution list please contact noha@noha.on.ca. Also, the e-bulletins will now feature a quote of the week section and we are looking for your input. Please email us a good motivational quote that can inspire coaches, trainers, officials, parents or players.

"Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all the others." Winston Churchill