



SUNSHINE COAST MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
LEADING, DEVELOPING AND PROMOTING POSITIVE HOCKEY EXPERIENCES

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Celebrating Our Teams' Success this Season

December 2024

As we approach the three month mark of the 2024-2025 hockey season, our Blues are off to an impressive start! Not only have we celebrated numerous victories on the ice, but we've also fostered a strong sense of camaraderie within our teams. Highlights include our U15 Female team winning a silver medal at the Burnaby Remembrance Day Tournament and our U11 Female team thriving at the Girls with Goals tournament in Abbotsford. The U11A team secured a silver medal at the Richmond Jets Ice Breaker tournament, while the U13A team enjoyed their Thanksgiving weekend in Penticton. The U15A team showcased great determination at a tournament in Salmon Arm, and the U18A squad clinched a gold medal in North Okanagan, overcoming injuries and suspensions. Additionally, the U18C1 and U18C2 teams proudly hosted the Irish Ice Hockey Association, showcasing our true Canadian spirit! We are incredibly proud of all our Blues teams!



Tsunami Junior Hockey Team and The Sunshine Coast Junior Hockey Society Make Generous Contribution to SCMHA Hockey Access Fund!

As we celebrate 50 years of hockey on the Sunshine Coast, the Tsunami Junior Hockey Team has made a remarkable contribution to our community. Through their recent fundraising efforts, they have raised an impressive \$2,270 to donate to the SCMHA Hockey Access Fund. This generous initiative aims to ensure that all aspiring hockey players have equal opportunities to participate in the sport, regardless of their financial circumstances. With this donation, the Tsunami team is helping to break down financial barriers, allowing future hockey stars to thrive and enjoy the game we all love.

Thank you to the Tsunami Junior Hockey Team for their commitment to supporting our community and fostering a love for hockey among all youth!



Building Strong Teams: Coach Development Session

On November 13th, the coaching community gathered for an evening of collaboration and learning, with 23 coaches participating in a dynamic session led by Director of Hockey Operations Caymen Froude and Vice President Kate Turner. The focus of the evening was to enhance our coaching practices through effective communication and discipline strategies.

Key discussions centred on how certain strategies contribute to player discipline and overall team success, highlighting areas such as enhanced team cohesion, improved performance, and mental resilience. Coaches explored the critical role they play as role models and the importance of fostering a positive reputation and culture within our teams.

A common challenge discussed was the influence that parents can sometimes exert on a child's development in sports. In response, the group shared insights on how to better support not only our young athletes but also their parents and guardians, ensuring that everyone is working in harmony to promote a positive sporting experience.

We encourage everyone to check out a short clip titled "The Ride Home" <https://youtu.be/-0e8zvvY-x8>

Together, we can continue to build a strong foundation for our players' development and success. Thank you to all who participated!



U18C1 Players Inspire the Next Generation of Blues

On November 16th, our U18C1 team rose early to mentor the U9 minor team, showcasing the spirit of camaraderie and support within our Blues community. It's inspiring to see our U18 players giving back and helping to shape the next generation of hockey stars. Such initiatives not only foster skill development but also strengthen team bonds and instill a love for the game. We're proud of our players for their leadership and commitment to supporting our younger blues players!



Goalie Development with Tsunami Coach Boston Bilous

This November and December, our Blues goalies have been fortunate to participate in specialized development sessions led by Tsunami Goalie Coach Boston Bilous. Over the course of four sessions, Coach Bilous has been sharing his professional expertise, focusing on skills and techniques to enhance our players' growth and performance.

We are thrilled to have this partnership with our Junior team, which provides invaluable resources for our goalies. The best part? These sessions are open and FREE for all SCMHA goalies!

Mark your calendars for the upcoming sessions on December 4th and December 18th.

U9 Teams Join Lions Gate League!

We are thrilled to announce that for the first time since the 2016/17 season, our U9 teams have joined the Lions Gate League! This exciting venture guarantees plenty of game activity for both our Minor and Major teams this season.

Starting December 1st, our U9 teams will face off against associations including Hollyburn Country Club, North Shore Winter Club, North Vancouver MHA, Squamish MHA, Sunshine Coast MHA, West Vancouver MHA, and Whistler MHA.

Mark your calendars and come support our young players at their first home games:

- Minor Team: December 8th at 9:45 AM vs. North Van
- Major Team: December 15th at 9:45 AM vs. North Van

Referee Spotlight: Mason Plows

This month, we want to shine a spotlight on Mason Plows, one of our newest referees who has jumped into every assignment with enthusiasm and dedication. Mason brings a commendable level of confidence along with a strong desire to develop his skills as an official. His commitment to officiating has not gone unnoticed, and we look forward to seeing his continued growth on the ice. Keep up the great work, Mason!



Spread the Holiday Cheer: SCMHA's Community Giving Initiative

For over a decade, SCMHA has proudly partnered with the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) to support families during the holiday season. We are dedicated to continuing this cherished tradition and spreading the warmth and generosity of the Blues throughout our community.

This season, we invite all teams to embrace the spirit of giving by supporting local families through three meaningful initiatives:

1. **Sunshine Coast Secret Santa – Brighten the holidays for families in need.**
2. **Sunshine Coast Community Services Stockings for High-Risk Youth – Help provide essential items and gifts to at-risk youth.**
3. **Elves Club Partnership – Together, we'll provide comprehensive support through gift hampers and gift cards for local families.**

We encourage everyone to get involved and make a difference this holiday season. For more information on how you can contribute, please reach out to your team manager. Let's come together to support our community and spread joy this festive season!



Join Us for U11C & U13C Tournament Weekend!



We are excited to host our upcoming U11C and U13C tournament weekend from November 29th to December 1st! Come out and cheer on your local Blues teams as they compete on home ice. We also welcome volunteers to help make this event a success! Your support is greatly appreciated. Let's show our community spirit and rally behind our players this weekend!