



**Halifax Hawks Minor Hockey Association
U13 Annual Report 2022**

U13C report – Heidi Grandy, Director

The Halifax Hawks had 2 U13C teams in the 2021/22 season. The teams were named the Ice Hawks and the Sky Hawks. Each team had 18 or 19 players and 2 goalies at the start of the balancing process. It was somewhat difficult to determine the number of teams ahead of time, and to find coaches and managers as several players had tried out and didn't make it, and there were some late registrations accepted.

Both Halifax teams ended up in the bronze division in the second half of the season.

It might be helpful to put together a small document that would contain issues that come up in hockey, along with the forms to be filled out, and who these forms go to. Perhaps any complaint forms that are sent out to Hockey Nova Scotia, or the whomever is in charge of the referees should be on the board agendas. This way, the complaints can be followed up and a response given to the complainant in a timely manner.

U13 Competitive Report – Raylene Hopkins, Director

U13 AAA - Our U13 team had a successful year finishing regular season in 3rd place, with 20-5-3 record. They played great in provincials with Max Branton making the All-Star Team. The team was well balanced with all players contributing to their success. We had some great feedback regarding the coaching staff, with the highlight being the development the players saw throughout the year. Overall, it was a successful year with a great group of players and coaches.

U13 AA - Our U13 AA team had an exceptional season. They finished the regular season in 1st with a record of 17-6-1. They finished off Playoffs in 2nd place, losing in a close 2-1 final. Head Coach Tim Dauphinee was named Competitive Coach of the Year, with the nominations sharing the same sentiment, Tim's soul focus was on developing good players on and off the ice. Overall a successful season from the perspective of families, players and coaches.

U13 A – The U13A team had a tough start to the season again this year, finishing in 5th place with a 4-14-7, with only 1 win prior to January. Playoffs were not much better with only 10 skaters available due to Covid. The team did play in SEDMHA and maintained a decent run taking on some CMHA teams and beating them. There were some concerns early on from parents over a coaching strategy focusing on skills and not positioning and game play, but the overall sentiment from the team was a good year.

U13 B Red - A mix of 1st and 2nd year players, they seemed to be the stronger of the 2 B teams but were still unable to find a winning groove. They had a 4-16-6 record finishing in 12th place. Playoffs told a different story with the Red team finishing in 3rd place with 10-4-3 record. We received great feedback

from families regarding the coaching and management of the team. Deb Parker, team manager, earning the Team Administrator of the Year award.

U13 B Black - struggled at times again this year, finishing the regular season in last place with a 2-21-3 record. They struggled with commitment of players attending practice and lost one defensive player to Covid restrictions in January. There was also some struggle with finding additional practice ice. They finished the playoffs in 9th place with a 2-6-4 record, with a couple of upsets to finish above Sackville (3rd place in regular season). The players and family were pleased with the finish to the season.

Other than the usual U13 concerns of not enough ice time, lack of goalies in the competitive division, and questions and concerns in general, we have not had any major issues in the division this year. Although there was the break after the holidays, all teams had 3 times the number of games as in 2021. There were several concerns with managers trying to find ice themselves instead of it being sourced by the Hawks for makeup games, but this has been addressed at Board level and should be less of an issue next season.

The tryouts went well with only 1 concern voiced from a parent about placement and there being 2 players acquired from Bedford for the AAA team. Both B teams were equally balanced as standings showed. Some parents were concerned with having the same group of evaluators the entire time, possibly leading to indifference and lack of attention. Parents did express interest in being able to watch the tryouts. There has been some ongoing concern with the lack of registration overall, but this is not limited to the Hawks as an organization.