



**CRFMHA ANNUAL REPORT  
2021-2022**

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## 2021-2022

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*The Capital Region Female Minor Hockey Association recognizes the traditional territories of the first nations peoples including the Lekwungen peoples [Esquimalt Nation; Songhees Nation]; WSÁNEĆ peoples [BOKÉĆEN (Pauquachin) First Nation; WJOŁŁP (Tsartip) First Nation; SÁUTW (Tsawout) First Nation; WSĪKEM (Tseycum) First Nation] as well as T'Sou-ke Nation and Scia'new First Nations. We are fortunate to live, thrive and play on these lands. We express our gratitude for this.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

Capital Region Female Minor Hockey Association (CRFMHA) was incorporated in May 2017 with a goal of improving infrastructure and program delivery for female minor hockey in the Capital Regional District (CRD). The principles in our Constitution reflect the core values of hockey development and a goal to offer opportunities for friendship, citizenship, mentorship and leadership to the female youth in our community. We were approved by BC Hockey and Vancouver Island Amateur Hockey Association (VIAHA) in 2019. The previous season was severely compromised due to the global pandemic, with few games, no League play and no Tournaments. The 2021-2022 season was a recovery effort, of sorts, although still limited due to the 5th wave caused by the Omicron variant, which prompted cancellation of Tournaments by the Provincial Health Officer between mid-December and mid-February. VIAHA and PCAHA play was also affected by road closures secondary to flooding that limited travel.

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

At the conclusion of our 3rd season of programming, we finally seem to be emerging from the pandemic with relaxation of requirements for face coverings and proof of vaccination. We find the Association itself to be in a very healthy position. Membership has grown despite the challenges of the past couple years, our ice contract is slowly improving (but not perfect!), we have more volunteers and we are on increasingly solid ground financially.

As we look ahead, our collective focus should be on teamwork and collaboration. We are in a unique position for growth, with no less than 70 registered for beginner programs in the next two months, but we hope that as we mature we will draw more interest from established players who might see the Association as less of a risk than when we were first formed.

None of our activities would be possible without our dedicated volunteer Board of Directors and all our team-based volunteers, working to enhance the experience for our players. The truly countless hours that are given up to enrich our programs are immensely appreciated.

I recall at the first public information session we held on March 14, 2019 at Spectrum Community School Theatre, just after the Association was approved by BC Hockey, one of the attendees commented that the Association “will be good after 3 years”. Here we are... Three years later. We are good. *Now it is time to be great!*

Ian Fleetwood  
President, CRFMHA  
2017 - 2022

## ADMINISTRATION

### Officer's Report (Donna Perman)

This season started out in a more positive light, and while we strived to put the previous challenging year behind us, safety requirements and protocols remained and were accepted as regular routine. COVID related issues, rates of transmission and facility compliance continued to shape how we operated as an association on and off the ice. In compliance with PHO guidelines, the added vaccine requirements auspiciously opened up opportunities and liberties for players, team staff, and other participants including the allowance of spectators at arenas and eventually reinstatement of Tournaments.

Prior to season start-up, Administration assisted with the implementation of an online registration system, utilizing the program system within our current website platform provided by GoalLine Sports. Reasons for moving to an online process included increased efficiency of player registrations while streamlining registrant intake, online fee payments, and to provide additional administrative reports and easier financial tracking.

Based on input and feedback from membership, the Administration Committee drafted and submitted resolutions to standardize the start date for the season and guarantee a playoff berth for all teams in female recreational leagues. These will be considered at the VIAHA AGM, as will a review of our Boundaries.

I wish to acknowledge all CRFMHA appointed board members (past and present) for their time and dedication, working under extraordinary circumstances, to help build and deliver a successfully strong female hockey program. Thank you to all of the other incredible members and friends of CRFMHA who contributed their time, skills and professionalism on and off the ice - ensuring a fun, safe and fulfilling environment for our players and their families.

## Managers (Sharon Lum)

### Manager's Manual

We continue to update this manual based on changing circumstances and feedback from users. A new version will be ready for the start of the 2022-23 season and, in time, this may become a “living document”.

### CRFMHA Team Photo Night

Due to the sudden and unexpected passing of our previous photographer, Gordon Lee, we had to revisit the plan for a common photo night for all teams. Most team photos were done by Kelly Wallace; however, some teams made alternate arrangements due to the uncertainty. In the end, all teams had photos done and we appreciate the flexibility of “Kelly the Photographer” to make himself available according to teams’ schedules, sometimes on short notice ([www.kellythephotographer.com](http://www.kellythephotographer.com)).

CRFMHA also entered into an arrangement with Captured Sports Photography. Mike Goldsworthy attended multiple games for each Reign team. Photos are available for viewing and purchase ([www.capturedsports.ca](http://www.capturedsports.ca))

### CRFMHA Awards

Awards from the prior season were announced following publication of last season’s Annual Report. For **2020-2021**, the winners were:

- Team of the Year - U9-C2
- Laurie Wishart Manager of the Year - Anh Nguyen
- Coach of the Year - Garry Muir
- Goaltender of the Year - Lily Brown
- Player of the Year - Gabby McArthur
- Official of the Year - *Not awarded due to pandemic (No games)*
- Most Improved Player - Allison Watt
- Resilience Award - Taylor Mackie
- Volunteer of the Year - Courtenay Jacklin / Brice Leibel / Andre Wuest

As announced at our 1st Annual Banquet on April 24, 2022, the award recipients for **2021-2022** were:

- Team of the Year - U15-C1
- Laurie Wishart Manager of the Year - Emma McArthur
- Coach of the Year - Loren Mullane
- Goaltender of the Year - Maple Ito-Ward / Mya Barney
- Player of the Year - Gabby McArthur
- Official of the Year - Marianne Waldemaras

- Most Improved Player - Annabelle Wallington
- Resilience Award - Avery Loudoun
- Volunteer of the Year - Karla Easingwood

CRFMHA introduced a new award this season, in recognition of the pioneering work of Bob and Edna Lindal to establish the original female hockey association in Victoria in the 1960's and 1970's (Lower Vancouver Island Girls Ice Hockey Association). The **Lindal Award** is bestowed upon an individual who has demonstrated dedication to the growth and development of female hockey in Victoria. The inaugural recipient was **Teri Cotton** and we were thrilled that the Lindal's could be in attendance for the presentation.

Lastly, Keep Girls in Sports (KGIS) is a Victoria-based community group formed in 2018 and focused on providing opportunities to young female athletes ([www.keepgirlsinsports.ca](http://www.keepgirlsinsports.ca)). Their inaugural Leadership Award was presented to **Regan Chaplin** (U18-A) by 2020 Olympic Gold Medalist, Sydney Payne.

### CRFMHA Scholarships

CRFMHA awarded three scholarships in 2021. There were many applicants. The successful candidates were:

- Chloe Evans
- Daria Laal
- Katie Banman

Nominations for 2022 Scholarships will be open in May 2022.

### Safety and Risk Management (Andre Wuest)

#### COVID-19

Changes were made to the PHO Orders on Face Coverings, requirements for proof of vaccination (POV) at gatherings, and limits on gatherings based on a percentage of normal capacity. To complicate things, sometimes more restrictive policies were adopted by the District and the local facilities, resulting in very frequent changes to the requirements for facility use by CRFMHA teams.

#### Buddy Check For Jesse

BCFJ is a mental health awareness campaign. Most CRFMHA teams participated in BCFJ events in October ([www.buddycheckforjesse.com](http://www.buddycheckforjesse.com)).

### Code of Conduct / Sportsmanship Starts in the Stands

We moved to an on-line process for verification of Player and Parental Code of Conduct as well as BC Hockey's Sportsmanship Starts in the Stands. Compliance was moderate. Fortunately, beginning next season, BC Hockey will incorporate these aspects into registration.

### Governance (Lauren Syverson)

The CRFMHA operates under the rules, policies and procedures established by Hockey Canada, BC Hockey and the Vancouver Island Amateur Hockey Association. Moreover, the Board has the mandate to develop and tailor policies and procedures specific to the unique circumstances of the CRFMHA. At present, CRFMHA policies are in place for:

- Volunteer Screening and Credentialing
- Player Protection
- Registration
- Player Evaluation (revised in 2022)
- Ice Allocation
- Scholarship Program

Additionally, CRFMHA policies to deal with Third Party Requests and Tournaments are in the final stages of development.

The CRFMHA Board is continuing to work to ensure that any gaps that are present in policy are addressed.

On a personal note, I am very gratified to see all girls provided with the opportunity to enjoy hockey. Continued success to all who work so hard to make it happen!

### Officiating - Administration (Teri Cotton)

Assignment of referees is the most significant administrative task for Officiating, sometimes made more difficult by the challenge of late changes to ice times. We moved to simplify this process through the creation of a new email account specific to referee assignments.

CRFMHA wishes to express our sincere gratitude to the other Referees-In-Chief who assisted with our officiating requests over the course of the season: Ken Haskill (VMHA), Galen Brewer (JDFMHA/ SDMHA), and Jason Syrotuck (PMHA). While we appreciate that the RIC's were willing and able to assist with officials, the process overall proved to be inefficient and unreliable at times, therefore not a sustainable model for future seasons. We plan to research other options to operate this process in-house, allowing CRFMHA to manage and control game



referee assignments, and provide a better payment system - in time for the 2022-23 season!

## PUBLIC RELATIONS

### Officer's Report (Lisa Parkes)

Unfortunately, the 2021-2022 season was again curtailed, from a Public Relations perspective, by the pandemic. Notwithstanding that, our Committee continued to work well together, building our brand, bringing tons more young (and not so young) girls and women into hockey through try hockey programs, keeping our membership informed and entertained, and participating in those community events that did take place.

We were unable to hold an association banquet at the end of the 2020-2021 season, but similar to the 2019-2020 season, held smaller awards and graduating player ceremonies, separately. And our group is so excited to be looking forward to our first association-wide banquet on April 24th (at the time of the writing of this report)!

We look forward to the 2022-2023 season and being able to finally get together at all of the rinks, gatherings, and community events that we've been missing!

### Director of Communications (Lexxi Smith)

#### Email

This email address ([communications@crfmha.ca](mailto:communications@crfmha.ca)) is mainly used for information regarding social media posts and website submissions. Members of the board and CRFMHA families can submit information to this email that they would like to be put on social media and the website. Emails regarding changes to the website and upcoming Goalline seminars are sent to this email.

#### Website

Our new website, hosted by Goalline (Stack Sports) launched on May 1, 2020. It is organized with information for “groups” on the top line (Players, Coaches, Managers, HCSP, Board of Directors) and “programs” on the second line (Teams, Events, Tournaments, Development, “Try Hockey”, Awards etc). There are direct links to our [charitable donations page](#) and the [“Reign Gear” official team store](#) on the homepage. The information for the website is sent to the communications email then distributed onto the corresponding section on the website using the formation functions through Goalline. The site was upgraded to facilitate on-line registration for the 2021-2022 season and additional enhancements to support team functions are pending.

## Social Media

### Facebook Account - Victoria Girls Hockey

Our facebook page also serves as a platform where we announce events, reminders and share new information about the association or teams. The facebook page has gained 80 new followers and 66 new page likes this year.

#### Statistics:

Total page likes - 482

Total page Followers - 558

#### Top 4 Geographics of followers:

209 Victoria, BC, Canada

48 Langford, BC, Canada

34 Sooke, BC, Canada

22 Brentwood Bay, BC, Canada

Our most popular posts have reached anywhere between 3000-4500 people, with around 150 post clicks and 150 engagements, such as likes. These posts were associated with Esso Fun Day and milestone announcements. Other posts that were frequently engaged with included NHL/NHLPA First Shift program announcements and congratulation posts.

### Instagram Account - @vicgirlshockey

Our Instagram has become more popular this year with a lot of new followers and browsers. Over this year we have gained 118 new followers. Our instagram platform is used to share new information regarding the association such as announcements for new programs or reminders for upcoming events. This account also serves as a place to share news about our teams and players.

#### Statistics:

Total Followers - 600

Total Following - 202

Total posts - 274 (not including stories)

### Twitter Account - @VicGirlsHockey

Twitter is our least used account out of our social media platforms. Most of our followers are parents and other associations. Most of our interactions and engagement on the account is from our announcements about new programs or congratulation posts. This year we have gained 100 new followers on twitter.

#### Statistics:

Following - 127

Followers - 180

## Brand, Identity and Marketing (Ken Jones)

CRFMHA continued to raise the profile of our brand with additional promotional materials including:

- Event tent
- Table throws
- Rink board advertising at Save on Foods Memorial Centre
- Dedicated pull-up promotional banner for U21 program
- Updated tournament logos for Thanksgiving and Remembrance Day events
- Jumbotron advertising at Archie Browning Sports Centre
- Updated parade banner (current logo)
- Magnetized “Reign Deer” logo for Santa Light Parade
- Flags for Victoria Day Parade
- Dedicated pull-up promotional banner for Beginner programs (*pending*)
- Custom Reign logo gloves (*pending*)

## Promotion (Vacant)

With fewer elected Board members than portfolios, we elected to leave this position vacant during the pandemic due to the suspension of community based events and limitations on public gathering.

We did participate in a few events:

- UVic Thunderfest (U21 recruitment event) - Sept 10, 2021
- Santa Light Parade - Nov 27, 2021

As we look ahead to the next season with a return to less restrictions in public spaces, CRFMHA will be present at a number of larger community events in the coming months.

## Graduating Player Gifts

Graduating players will receive a graduation gift from CRFMHA as a way to congratulate them for both their hard work and involvement in the Association. The gift this year is a shadow box with a customized jersey-print.

## Graduating Player Photos

Graduating player photos collages were created by Mike Goldsworthy (@captured\_sports). These will be posted to our social media to acknowledge the career of each player.

## Special Events (Caeleigh Ryalls)

### Graduating Players Ceremony (2020-2021 Season)

We held our second annual Graduating Players' Ceremony on July 9, 2021 at Pioneer Park. This event was hosted outdoors to comply with COVID-19 restrictions. We hosted a small, well attended event for the graduating players and their family members. We presented the graduating players gifts and announced scholarship recipients.

### Awards Ceremony (2020-2021 Season)

We initially delayed the 2020-21 Banquet in the hope that PHO orders might eventually allow it, but ultimately opted for a small event on October 16, 2021 at the Oak Bay Recreation Center to present Association awards. This event was well attended by the award recipients and their family members.

### Annual Holiday Ice Festival

No event was held due to the restrictions on social gatherings due to the pandemic.

### Olympic Gold Medal Game Viewing Party

Although capacity limits were still at 50%, we were able to host a viewing party at Spectrum Community School on February 16, 2022 to witness Team Canada win the Gold Medal. Making her Olympic debut was CRFMHA collaborator **Micah Zandee-Hart** of Saanichton, BC, who is an inspiration to our players as the first BC-born woman to win a Gold Medal in hockey.

### 1st Annual CRFMHA Awards Banquet

We held our first Banquet on April 24, 2022 at Pearkes Fieldhouse. Honored guests included Bob and Edna Lindal (LVIGIHA); Barry and Lisa Petrachenko (Executive Director, Softball BC and former CEO of BC Hockey). We also welcomed special guests Mike Brooks and Sydney Payne (Keep Girls in Sports) and Mike Goldsworthy (Captured Sports Photography). Thanks to Veda Smith, Lisa Parkes and Donna Perman who helped organize this event, which was catered by Little Piggy Catering.

## Recruitment and Mentorship (Maegan Thompson)

### PISE Power Play

In Spring 2021, CRFMHA was asked by the Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence (PISE) to deliver the Power Play Program - a multi-sport program for girls, ages 6-9. CRFMHA had this program sanctioned by Hockey Canada as a Try Hockey event. We hosted a virtual meeting for 21 players and their parents on April 6, 2021, as once again we were managing COVID protocols. Excitingly, we also had a guest appearance from **Micah Zandee-Hart** and **Kristin**

Campbell (National Women's Team) to welcome the new players to hockey. Coaches were asked to complete [Keeping Girls in Sport | Coaching Resources | Jumpstart \(canadiantire.ca\)](#) which was valuable learning. Player coaches were also invited to complete the course which was an excellent point to add to their resume. This program was supported by ten adult coaches and eleven player coaches.

### Esso Fun Days

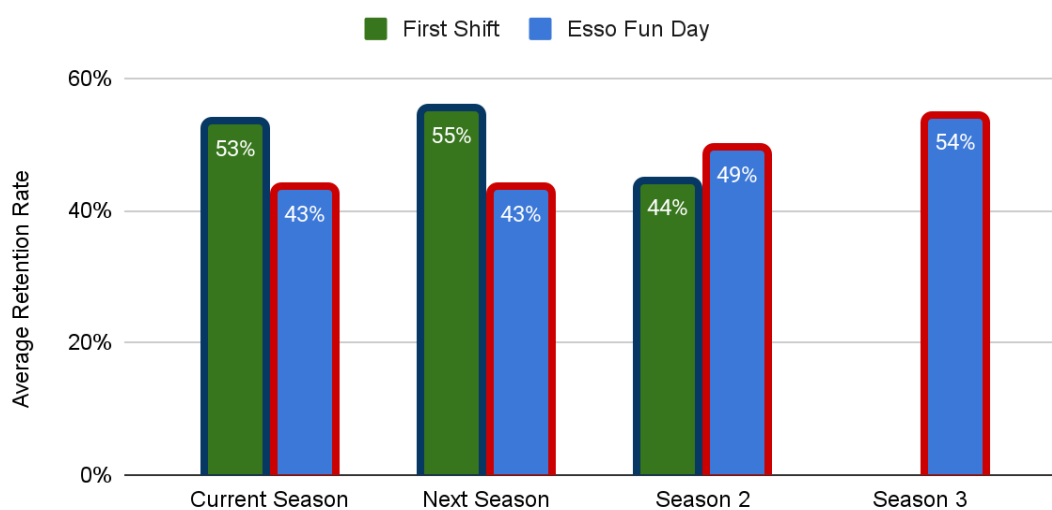
We hosted two Esso Fun Day programs in the Spring 2021; Thursday evenings at Pearkes with 24 registrants and Saturday afternoons at Westhills with 20 registrants. These programs were supported with 12 adult and player coaches, fewer than is typical given the COVID restrictions at the time. During the competitive weekend evaluations, we hosted two Esso Fun Day programs; one for children and one for adults; 10 and 7 registrants respectively.

### NHL/NHLPA First Shift

We were fortunate to receive approval and support from the NHL/NHLPA First Shift program to host our third First Shift program in November- December 2021. This program was run at capacity, which was reduced to 30 during COVID. This program was coordinated by a U21 player providing leadership experience for the player, with the support of a certified adult coach. The program was delivered by 10 adult coaches and eight player coaches.

We have reviewed our retention rates following these introductory programs, including immediate registration after the sessions end and our longer term retention rates approach 50%.

### Average Retention Rates: First Shift and Esso Fun Days



Referenced to the year the program took place

## HOCKEY OPERATIONS

### Officer's Report (Ian Fleetwood)

The position of Vice-President (Hockey Operations) was left vacant after the AGM and was filled temporarily by Ian Fleetwood. The season was impacted by the pandemic, road closures from flooding and PHO restrictions on Tournaments, but otherwise much more normal than the prior season! Highlights included five U7/U9 teams, a larger U21 squad and a total of 15 recreational teams with growing numbers at the younger ages allowing for U11 League play close to home. We launched our first season-long Development program. Individual reports below contain greater detail.

### Coaching (Loren Mullane)

The Director of Coaching was involved in

- Review of the 2021-2021 Coaching Evaluation Survey;
- Development of the tryout process and oversight of the Phase 1 as it occurred;
- Coordination of Phase 2 of tryouts and collaboration with coaches as appropriate for final team selections;
- Screening and placement of coaches for Competitive and Recreational teams;
- Managing various issues related to coaching over the season;
- Review information regarding Coach suspensions;
- Encouragement of compliance with training requirements and post-task assignments;
- Review and approval of post-task assignments for submission to BC Hockey.

### Competitive Hockey (Melanie Murray)

Phase 1 of the Competitive team (aka Rep team) Tryouts were held during the final weekend in August 2021 at Archie Browning Sports Centre. We hosted tryouts for three age divisions, U13A (15 players), U15A (28 players) and U18A (22 players). Two U15A aged players were given permission to be assessed at Phase 2, due to injury and other accommodations. As the Director of Competitive Hockey, I worked closely with the Director of Coaching, Loren Mullane to organize, plan and carry out the tryout weekend. Each age group received four ice times over the 3-day weekend, consisting of skills sessions and scrimmages. There were at least five evaluators at each session during Phase 1.

Phase 2 occurred after the September long weekend and involved team practices and exhibition games, at which time final selections were made for the U15 and U18 teams. Unfortunately for the U13 Division, the only goalie who registered to tryout withdrew at the last minute, and before a replacement goalie could be found a number of players who were

concerned about the viability of the team transferred out of the CRFMHA. As a result, a U13-A team was not declared.

Some released players requested an exit interview in the form of written feedback from the Director of Coaching. None of the released players appealed the decisions of the selection committee.

The two remaining teams both had successful seasons with the U15-A winning the District Championship and qualifying for a berth at the Provincial Championships.

In the future, we hope to decrease the interval between Phase 1 and Phase 2 by hosting Phase 2 on the weekdays prior to Labour Day, pending ice availability.

### Recreational Hockey (Glenn Wagner)

Preliminary team formation in August helped immensely with the changes required in September due to additional registrations and player requests. The greatest challenge to team formation was the collapse of the U13-A team and subsequent formation of two U13 recreational teams that had players withdraw for integrated associations over the course of September.

Unlike in the previous season, very few age exemptions were necessary to facilitate team formation in the U15 and U18 divisions because numbers were fairly strong. The few players who were moved up were assessed by the Director of Coaching as having the skill set to compete at the next age bracket prior to allowing the move.

For Divisions with more than one team (particularly U11) early season exhibition games were used to test team balance. Some player movement occurred after these games to facilitate better team balance. With the exception of U11-C4 and U15-C2, which struggled against their sister teams, the majority of teams were well balanced across divisions. The current team rosters should be taken into account next season when team formation takes place, to make sure the weaker teams are better balanced if possible.

For the first time, CRFMHA hosted four C teams in the same Division, which allowed VIAHA to convene a South Island League for U11 and limited the travel commitment for players and families on those teams.

As with previous seasons, player recruitment for the U21 team started off slowly, but picked up quickly through September. By week 4 of the season (4 weeks earlier than the previous season) there were 15 players on the team. This number eventually peaked at 21 players, which is exceptional for a U21 team.

Congratulations to the U11-C1 team, which captured the VIAHA League and Playoff Championships and also won the Fall Female Faceoff Tournament on Remembrance Day weekend in Sooke. Congratulations also to the U13-C2 team who won their Division at the same Tournament.

A challenge unique to Recreational teams is that Hockey Canada, BC Hockey and VIAHA allow for ongoing registration of new players until February 10 of the current playing season. CRFMHA hosts NHL/NHLPA First Shift programs whenever possible, which are intended to encourage new registration. The dates for these programs are set centrally on a regional basis, determined by higher level logistics such as on-site equipment fittings and delivery. Programs are typically assigned for Oct/Nov; Nov/Dec; Dec/Jan or Jan/Feb. The latter dates can be problematic for relatively new skaters joining teams that have been practicing for months. While we continue to welcome players at any time they are eligible to join, we may explore the option of a skills development program option for late registrants depending on circumstances in future seasons, which may ultimately be preferable to new registrants.

### Development (Vacant)

The Development portfolio was one of the portfolios left vacant after the elections at the AGM due to a lack of Directors to cover all roles.

Despite this, CRFMHA hosted a series of Development opportunities over the off-season (April - August). These were generally well subscribed and attended, but were still subject to contact tracing protocols.

Thankfully, **Ashley Kiss** stepped forward to serve as a Coordinator for this position for most of the Regular Season and launched an extensive series of Development sessions, using the ice available after team-based events had been accounted for. The times available for these sessions were challenging and enrollment in several sessions was suboptimal. However, those who were able to participate benefitted from expert and professional coaching and, in some cases, groupings that were more cohesive based on skill levels.

### Goaltending (Vacant)

The Goaltending portfolio was left vacant following the resignation of Reg Gladstone at the beginning of the season.

From a Development perspective, Goaltending Development sessions were scheduled with the program referenced above.



With respect to goaltending equipment, we benefited from the expertise of Ken Jones in securing some additional pieces of equipment early in the-season to ensure the basic needs of all teams were met.

The Hockey Operations Committee identified through feedback and requests that the largest areas of need for additional goalie equipment are in the younger Divisions (U7 - U13), where the benefit would be to allow multiple interested players to participate in practices and Development sessions, which is currently limited by equipment rather than interest. CRFMHA is looking into acquiring this gear, while balancing the challenges associated with storage and management.

### **Officiating - Development (Teri Cotton)**

A Hockey Canada Officiating Program (HCOP) clinic had originally been arranged for mid-September, but due to administrative changes and pandemic delays at the Branch level, this was postponed until October. We had several certified Officials participate, as well as several new trainees. Continued focus on development and training of Officials remains a significant focus for CRFMHA. We were fortunate through the course of this season to have some senior/experienced female Officials either move to Victoria or express interest in recertification.

## **FINANCIAL**

### **Treasurer's Overview (Kelly Chaplin)**

The 2021-22 season saw the Association strengthen its financial position once again. With increasing registration numbers, we took in greater funds from registration fees but also saw significant increase in ice costs as we acquired more ice to meet the demands of the growing membership. As the registration fees charged by the Association do not cover the full amount of what it costs for an individual to play hockey, we rely on external grants and fundraising to cover this deficit in order to keep registration fees reasonable.

Once again this year we received a BC Community Gaming Grant, along with a number of other grants that support the operations of our Association. We also had a number of successful fundraising initiatives including the 50/50 Raffle, 3rd Annual Bottle Drive, and hockey pool which contributed to covering our operating costs.

This year for the first time we were able to provide subsidies to teams to cover a portion of the costs of required travel in female hockey to League and Playoff games throughout Vancouver Island and, in the case of the Competitive teams, to the lower mainland and provincial championships. The ability to do this on an annual basis will vary depending on the financial position of the Association each year, and the various grants and fundraising activities that benefit us.

## Registrar (Laurie Wishart)

Our season was almost normal but still affected by the COVID pandemic with some tournament cancellations during mid-season. Happily, our teams were able to travel for scheduled League and Interlock games which gave some degree of normalcy. And by the end of the season, we had many teams participating in tournaments.

Our registration numbers for the season totaled 260 players, up from 212 participants last season. We also transferred four (4) players to the AAA U18 Seals team for the season. We rostered 17 teams (U7 x 2; U9 x3; U11 x 4; U13-C x 2; U15-C x 2 and U15-A x 1; U18-C x 1 and U18-A x 1; and U21-C x 1).

Many thanks go to Donna Perman, VP Administration, for setting up the new registration process done online via our website. From the registrar's point of view, the payment process was quite a bit easier since most parents were able to use the credit card payment option and less time was spent following up missed payments.

Also thanks to Glenn Wagner for all the hours spent setting up our Recreational teams in a fair manner (trying to keep players close to home, trying to keep a good skill balance between teams and distributing coaches and goalies). In almost all cases, the teams' skill levels were kept close. We learned more about how and when to introduce new players to teams during the season (in particular the First Shift players), He also dealt handily with the overage/underage/friend requests that came in.

It is great to see the growth in the younger age divisions because it helps us achieve our goal of rostering multiple recreational teams that can play each other locally with a few road trips up island. All those Esso Fun Days and First Shift programs are really showing dividends... thanks to our wonderful development and recruitment folks!!!

As usual, I relied on our President, Ian Fleetwood, for sage advice and help with any difficult situations. Thanks, Ian!

Finally, once again it was great fun working with all the parents, players, coaches, and board members this season. We've all learned on the job over the past 3 years and honestly, I'm so pleased to see how strong our Association has become in spite of a world-wide pandemic during two of those years! I'm honored to be your Registrar!

## External Funding (Anh Nguyen)

### Charitable Donations

With families affected by the ongoing financial strain of the pandemic, we again avoided an organized charitable donations campaign.

### Donations

Run as an online contest, CRFMHA was selected as a recipient of the Kruger Big Assist, which was a \$10,000 donation to the Association that was subsequently redistributed to families within our membership who could use an “Assist”.

### Sponsorship

This season we continued to focus on known national sponsorship programs rather than pursue small businesses affected by the pandemic. We were sponsored by four local branches in the **Scotiabank Community Hockey Sponsorship Program** (Victoria, Belmont, Sidney and Hillside) based on requests by Lisa Parkes, Donna Perman, Ian Fleetwood and Anh Nguyen.

Meagan Thompson ran the **NHL/NHLPA First Shift** and **Esso Fun Days** programs, which includes sponsorship funding for both the program itself and, for First Shift, demonstration of a retention strategy.

Our younger players benefited from the **Tim Horton’s TimBits** (U7-U9) and **McDonald’s atoMc** (U11) programs, administered by Elise Gratton.

### Fundraising

We are settling into an annual cycle of reliable fundraising events. These include the Bottle Drive at the beginning of the season, the hockey draft in October and now a new 50/50 Raffle in February.

Thanks to **Geoff Gair**, with support from Kelly Chaplin, we hosted our 3rd annual NHL hockey draft on [officepools.com](http://officepools.com), which was successful.

**Anh Nguyen** worked with [Rafflebox](http://Rafflebox) to host our first annual 50/50 draw. Uptake in the community exceeded our expectations and it nearly sold out!

### Grants

Lisa Parkes submitted our **BC Community Gaming Grant**, with support from Kelly Chaplin and Ian Fleetwood, which was awarded this season for the first time.

The third and final installment of a 3-year grant supporting the launch of the Association from the **Daryl K Seaman Canadian Hockey Fund (Calgary Foundation)** was due at the end of our fiscal year, but arrived late.

Our 2021 Spring/Summer Development program was supported by the **VIHA Community Wellness Grant** and this has been renewed for the 2022 Spring/Summer sessions.

CRFMHA was the recipient of the **Jumpstart Sports Relief Fund Grant** and the **KidSport Local Sport Organization Relief Fund Grant**.

Although it was confirmed in the prior season, our funding from the **Canadian Women and Sport WISE Fund** was targeted for programs in 2021-2022.

We have also received an expression of interest from BC Hockey to fund a CRFMHA program aimed at promoting participation in female hockey by First Nations use.

Unfortunately, we were also unsuccessful with several grant applications including Canadian Tire Jumpstart Programming Grant (x2) and KidSport Play it Forward.

### **Ice and Facilities (Karla Easingwood)**

We acquired ice on 13 ice surfaces at 10 facilities administered by 7 municipalities and 3 private agencies. A challenge of this portfolio is integrating schedules from all those facilities, each with slight variations in timing and zamboni protocols, into a single reference document.

Within the allowances of the Ice Allocation Policy, further considerations for scheduling included time of day, age of participants and creating a recurring schedule, which was established on a 4-week rotation.

Our ice distribution was skewed toward early mornings and later evenings with enough weekend times to facilitate League play and introductory programs, but not many exhibition games. Ice not allocated to teams was used for Development purposes, but at suboptimal times. Apart from limited game slots on weekends, a definite gap in our ice items is that we have no recurring ice times between the end of the school day and 7:30 pm on weekdays, which limits programming options for younger players, who form an increasingly large component of the Association. This will also be a priority in the off-season.

Numerous pressures caused variations in allocation including games/travel canceled due to flooding and highway closures; canceled Tournaments (per PHO); suspended PCAHA Interlock games; last minute rink closures for maintenance (Wurtele and Ian Stewart); short notice on the VIAHA schedule; team requests or changes in team availability after the schedule was

published and even restoration of additional ice on the weekend usually lost for the CARHA Pacific Cup adult tournament.

### Equipment (Elise Gratton)

Our association sponsorships for **Timbits** and **AtoMc** uniform programs for U7-U11 were again successfully renewed this season. We are grateful for the jerseys, socks, and various player gifts provided by our sponsors.

We were able to expedite distribution of on-ice equipment (pucks, cones, first aid kits) and jerseys/socks for all teams this season due to having inventory on hand before the start of the season.

We loaned out 20 gear sets to CRFMHA members this year, almost doubling our loans from last year. We also supported the Esso Fun Day spring and fall programs. Much work still needs to be done to centralize our storage and perform equipment maintenance such as skate sharpening.

Challenges include the ability to better support the loaner gear program for recruitment events at the beginning and end of the season which coincide with association tryouts and jersey/equipment distribution and collection.

Many thanks to **Westshore U-Lock** for their continued support in sponsoring our storage unit.

The equipment team provided 25 equipment loans to support the Spring 2022 Esso Fun Days recruitment program at Pearkes (April/May). We anticipate fulfilling as many requests for the Westhills Esso Fun Day program (May/June).

### Tournaments (Veda Smith)

#### Internal (Hosted) Tournaments:

CRFMHA planned for three home tournaments during the 2021-22 season. The first was the CRFMHA Thanksgiving Classic, Oct. 9-11 for the U15-A and U18-A Divisions. This tournament was hosted at Pearkes Recreation Centre, both Gold and Green Rinks. Each division consisted of 4 teams (U15-A: Reign, Langley Lightning, Meadow Ridge Barracudas, and North Island Impact; U18-A: Reign, North Island Impact, Okanagan Hockey Academy, and Surrey Falcons). There were additionally two U18-A and one U15-A team on the waitlist. We chose to host a Competitive tournament as Recreational teams are generally not formed and prepared for a tournament this early in the season. This tournament was overall a great success. The champions were Okanagan Hockey Academy (U18-A) and Victoria Reign (U15-A).

The second tournament was the CRFMHA Fall Female Face-Off (Remembrance Day), Nov. 12-14, for the U11-C and U13-C Divisions. This tournament was hosted at SEAPARC Leisure Complex. This tournament was planned to be hosted by U13-C1 and U13-C2, and was originally planned as U13-C only. Due the short notice of this tournament and lack of hotel availability, it was challenging to get adequate team commitment from the U13 division. We expanded this tournament to include a U11 division. Each division consisted of 4 teams (U11: Reign C1, Reign C2, Reign C3, and Campbell River C Tournament Team; U13: Reign C1, Reign C2, Vancouver Female IHA, and Cowichan Valley Capitals). Overall this tournament was a great success and had very positive feedback from all involved. The champions were Victoria Reign U11-C1 and Victoria Reign U13-C2.

The third tournament was the New Year's Tournament. However, we were unable to get the ice contract required for this tournament and therefore no further planning occurred.

CRFMHA would like to consider additional tournaments or jamborees as ice becomes available.

#### External (Participant) Tournaments:

Many teams had tournaments canceled between mid-December and Family Day weekend as a result of the PHO restriction on Tournaments including over the Holiday break in December (e.g. Pat Quinn Classic; Nanaimo Recreational Tournament) as well as Wickfest in Surrey (early February). Fortunately, many teams were able to get into late season events:

Richmond Ravens 24th Annual Ice Classic (March 18 - 20), participating teams:

- Reign U7 Tournament Team (C2)
- Reign U9 Tournament Team (C1)
- Reign U9 Tournament Team (C2)
- Reign U11-C1
- Reign U11-C2
- Reign U11-C3
- Reign U11-C4
- Reign U13-C1
- Reign U13-C2
- Reign U15-C1
- Reign U15-C2

JDF Hometown Jamboree (March 25-27), participating teams:

- Reign U7-C1
- Reign U9-C3

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