



## 2011-2012 Bantam AA Rep Team

### *Overview*

I anticipate this season to be the best we've had within the PJH organization in quite some time. With a high number of returning players from last year's team, some up-and-coming first year Bantams, and some players who are new to our organization, we have the chance to create something special.

Over the past 3 or 4 years, I have watched our players grow on and off the ice. I have learned a lot from them. I am excited to use what I have learned, as well as my own experience to make the players the best they can be on the ice and within the community. I have many fresh ideas that I am eager to apply that I will share with the players this season that I believe will make for a very competitive and fun season of hockey.

Thank you in advance for all you do for your kids. Let's make this season great!

### *Competition*

As we have done in past seasons, we will kick off our season in Richmond, BC at the Seafair IceBreaker tournament. This tournament has traditionally been an accurate measuring stick on where our team fits in terms of competition. I am forecasting (based on last year) that we will be setting our sights to compete with teams that will be high end AA to mid-range AAA levels. Obviously this is just a preliminary assessment, but I believe we have a great core group that is only going to be bigger, stronger, and faster than last year.

## *Practices and Training*

Currently, I am working on two scenarios for weekly practices. One option is to use our two regular practice sheets per week and add one day per week for off-ice training. Option two is to have 3 practice sheets every second week. This way we can get more ice time for our players, which is essential to compete at a high level.

With the new renovations at the WinterHawks Skating Center, we have the unique opportunity to utilize the large screen televisions for game play video review. I believe that the use of video is an excellent way of showing players the little things (good and bad) that often get overlooked during the heat of the game.

## *Goal Setting*

This season, I will be meeting with each player to evaluate what they want from this season, what I expect from them as individuals, and where they see themselves by the end of the year. Part of this evaluation will be quantitative in the form of statistics. Qualitative assessments will be made as well, since there are things that just can't be put into numbers like hard work, discipline, and determination. The players will also set academic goals for themselves. We will try to organize study hall sessions while we are on the road. I will try to make myself available during these sessions to help out the players with their schoolwork if needed.

## *Costs*

My goal this season, as in past seasons, is to maximize the hockey and keep costs low. I am hoping that we can keep our monthly dues in the \$300-350 range.

## *Philanthropy*

This year I would really try to get involved in the community a little bit. I believe it will be great for the PJH organization and I also believe that it will give the kids a sense of pride and accomplishment. I have many ideas such as a 'Marquee Match-up' game where we charge attendance and donate all of the proceeds to a worthy cause. Any other ideas that folks have would be welcome.

## *End Points*

This is just a general overview that pieces together some of my thoughts. Once the team is chosen in August, I will develop a much more detailed outlook of the season. As always, there will be many ups and downs during a hockey season. My job is to make sure everything goes as smooth as possible on the ice for our kids. I am very excited to get started!

Jason McBain