



**Bantam / Midget High
Performance Program
Information Meeting**

March 11, 2020

Tonight's Conversation

- The hockey landscape
- Thunderbird High Performance Program
- Hear from the coaches
- Next steps
- Questions



What's changed?

- Pretty much everything!
- Previously only option was MHAs or a couple options for hockey boarding schools
- “Minor” hockey delivery has changed
 - It has become a business
 - Costs are moving beyond some families



What options exist?

- Academies

- Various levels of competition
- Integrated with a specific school (may require tuition)
- Program costs: varies between programs \$17,000-\$22,000
- Programs are not all the same – ask about:
 - coaches' experience/certifications
 - ice time philosophies
 - logistics of getting to/from school
 - academic program
- Programs vary but typically have ~50 games including showcases, tournaments, championships, etc
- Dryland component – varies greatly between programs



What options exist?

- Zone programs
 - Major Bantam, Minor Midget, and Major Midget
 - Program cost:
 - BC Hockey fee - \$6,900 to \$7,650
 - Additional fees for taxes, participant assessment fees, and insurance premiums
 - Teams are eligible to charge an additional fee to cover items such as additional training, food while traveling, and tournament expenses.
 - Game schedule – Major Bantam (30), Minor Midget (32), and Major Midget (36) plus tournaments



What options exist?

- Vancouver Golden Panthers
 - U14 and U17 programs in 2020/21
 - NOT sanctioned – not permitted to play against any sanctioned teams in league or tournament play
 - Program cost – unknown
 - Game schedule – 8 games in HSL in 2019/20
- Metro Hockey Academy
 - U12, U14 and U16 programs in 2020/21
 - NOT sanctioned – not permitted to play against any sanctioned teams in league or tournament play
 - Program cost – \$9,500 + tax plus tournaments
 - Game schedule – 10 games in HSL in 2019/20



What options exist?

- Thunderbirds:
 - Enhanced High Performance program initiated in 2019/20
 - Bantam (U15) – planning for 3 rep teams next season
 - Midget (U18) – planning for 2 rep teams next season
- What we can do differently from other options
 - Able to provide a high performance program at a zero profit cost to participants
 - Allow players to stay home, play with friends, continue attending their own school AND be part of a solid development program



Thunderbirds High Performance Program

- Participates in PCAHA league
 - ~45 games including exhibition, placement, league and playoffs plus tournaments
- Weekly schedule: 2 practices, 2 games
- Biweekly skills session
- Dryland Training program and Apparel package
(A1 included, A2 individual opt-in)
- Anticipated 2020-21 Program cost:
 - A1: under \$4k (19/20 season = \$3499)
 - A2: under \$3k (19/20 season = \$2709)



What's included in program cost

- All PCAHA games, practices and skills sessions
- Paid head and assistant coaches
- ProFormance Goalie School training
- \$9500 team allocation towards tournaments
 - anything left after registration/coaches travel goes towards covering any additional tournament related costs
- A1: Dryland training with certified trainers
- A1: TBirds apparel package
- Additional elements being explored such as mental preparation, dietician, etc
- *does not include: tournament travel, team activities*



Head Coach – Bantam A1

- U16 Team BC **Head Coach** - Canada Winter Games, Halifax Nova Scotia, Gold Medalist (2011)
- **Head Coach**, Ridge Meadows Flames, Pacific Junior Hockey League (PJHL)
- **Assistant Coach**, Langley Hornets, British Columbia Hockey League (BCHL)
- **Head Coach** Richmond Sockeyes, Pacific Junior Hockey League PJHL)
- **Head Coach**, Semiahmoo MHA Midget A1 (PCAHA)
- **Head Coach**, Seafair MHA Bantam A1 (PCAHA)
- NCCP Master Course Conductor
- Hockey Canada Coaching Certification - Advanced 2
- High Performance Provincial Coordinator (2009 - 2016)
- **Seafair** Minor Hockey Association – Coach of the Year
- **Richmond** Minor Hockey - Coach of the Year
- **BC Hockey** – Coach of the Year
- **Pacific Junior Hockey League** – Coach of the Year



Russ Weber



Head Coach – Bantam A2

- Hockey Canada high performance coach advance level 1
- Head coach and assistant coach, North Devils,
Pacific Junior Hockey league (PJHL) 6 seasons
- Started with Thunderbirds MHA in 1991
- Head coach Atom A1
- Head coach Peewee A1
- Head coach Bantam A1
- Asst coach Midget A1
- T-Birds coach of the year
- Three sons played T Bird MHA through to midget Rep. Two went on to Junior and one to University hockey.



Danny
Hildebrand



Head Coach – Midget A1



Steven
Maisy

- Head Coach, Vancouver Thunderbirds MHA, Midget A1 (PCAHA)
- Head Coach, North Delta MHA, Midget A1 (PCAHA)
- Skills Coach, Surrey Eagles High Performance Skills Academy
- Scout, Surrey Eagles (BCHL)
- Guest Evaluator, Creston Valley Thundercats (KIJHL)
- Hockey Canada Coach Certificate Development 1



Timelines

- Season registration period
 - Returning players – May 1
 - New to TBirds players – June 1
 - Players must be registered for tryouts by July 15
- Any player not interested in A1 full program can declare for A2 prior to start of tryouts via email to Tanya Foley at tfoley@vancouverthunderbirds.ca



If you land elsewhere next season

- Once a TBird, ALWAYS a Tbird
 - Let us know any accomplishments on and off the ice
 - If it's not the experience you expected, always able to come home
 - Join the 2021/22 waitlist starting in January 2021





Questions?