

BURNABY MINOR HOCKEY

# STIX N PUX



MARCH 2023

# FIRST SHIFT



If you've been by Burnaby Lake Arena on a Sunday morning over the last few months and thought, "Hey, that guy looks like Vancouver Canuck legendary goalie Kirk McLean!", chances are you were right! Starting back in October for 6 weeks, and again starting in February for another 6 weeks, Burnaby Minor Hockey Association volunteers have been running the NHL/NHLPA First Shift Hockey program.

With the support of BMHA, the Vancouver Canucks Alumni Association, and SFU Hockey, over 73 new- to-hockey players aged 6-10 have had their first exposure to the great game of Hockey right here in Burnaby. Not only has the NHL/NHLPA First Shift program introduced the love of hockey to these new players, it has also been a great feeder program to BMHA's Micro-Hockey program, and over the last few years, many players have gone on to join BMHA's full hockey programs. It has also given several players in our Junior Mentor Program experience in supervision, coaching, and mentoring younger players. BMHA contributes the ice-time as well as sources the volunteers to run the NHL/NHLPA First Shift Hockey program in Burnaby, and we have the great support of SFU Hockey who regularly sends several of their players in uniform to help with the on-ice instruction.

Vancouver Canucks alumni such as Kirk McLean, Dave Babych, and Jyrki Lumme are regular on-ice guest instructors as well, and we've even had Vancouver Canucks mascot Fin the Whale come by to cause some havoc on the ice with the players!



# FIRST SHIFT



The NHL/NHLPA First Shift Hockey program is open to children between the ages of 6 and 10 years old who have never previously enrolled in minor hockey. For \$229, they are fully outfitted by Bauer Equipment Fit experts in Head-to-Toe hockey equipment and get 6 weeks of on-ice instructional sessions. We know that families starting out in ice hockey can be intimidated by the equipment or the process, especially if they haven't been involved before, and the NHL/NHLPA First Shift hockey program makes it so easy for them.

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Full program information is available at [www.firstshift.ca](http://www.firstshift.ca) and sessions typically sell-out within minutes of the registration opening in early June. This is a great chance to refer other Burnaby kids to First Shift to help our Association continue to grow and be accessible for players in our community.

BMHA would like to thank the volunteers for helping make this program such a success, including Lead Instructors Dave Graves and **Edwin Wang**, and on-ice volunteers **Troy Maulding**, and **Marc Couture**. Also, a very special thank you to the following BMHA Junior Mentors who have given their time over BOTH the Fall and Winter sessions:

- **Joshua Niou** – Bulldogs U18C6
- **Carter Chan** – Bulldogs U15A1
- **Cameron Chan** – Bulldogs U15A1
- **Mitchell Cunningham** – Bulldogs U15C4



If you are interested in volunteering in any of the First Shift sessions hosted by Burnaby Minor Hockey Association, or want more information about the program in general, please contact **Bill Cunningham** at [director-growth@burnabymh.com](mailto:director-growth@burnabymh.com)





# WILDCATS NEWS

## River City Faceoff Tournament



The U13A1 Wildcats traveled to Kamloops for the River City Faceoff January 20th to 22nd. A proud Kamloops-ian herself, BMHA's director of female hockey, Katie Larson, was very excited to show the Wildcats her hometown.

The team met at Inks Lake, a local's favorite spot for pond hockey. The team found a shovel and cleared the fresh skiff of snow and had fun trying to find the smoothest spots to skate, while parents enjoyed coffee and hotdogs near a fire.

The team opened the tournament with a win over the West Kootenay Wildcats. Dinner that night was hosted at the Kamloops Rugby Club where the team shared a meal with our regular season top-competitors, Tri Cities Predator's U13A2.

Sharing a meal with the opposition is a key part of rugby culture that the players were excited to experience. It was great to see players from both teams socializing with each other off the ice.

Saturday's games saw the Wildcats come up short by one goal in both games against some very physical and skilled opposition from Williams Lake and the tournament hosts, Kamloops. A team dinner at Frick and Frack Tap House followed by games night in the activity room, and a 6am game at the historic Memorial Arena wrapped up a memorable weekend for the WU13A1 players.







# WILDCATS NEWS

## Wildcats Represents on PCAHA High Performance Teams



Burnaby Minor was well-represented on the PCAHA Female High Performance teams this year. Carolyn Koo and Victoria Lee (WU15A1) and coach Laura DeSantis (WU13A1) were all part of the U15 Team 1 that traveled to the Mississauga Hurricane's AA Winter Showcase in January.

The team did exceptionally well finishing 1st in their pool and advancing through the tournament final. Ultimately they settled for a silver medal coming up short against a very strong North York Storm.

Michaela Larson and Serena Walji (WU13A1) traveled to Ottawa with U13 Team 2 where they competed in the Paint it Purple Tournament. They toured the Senate of Canada (Parliament was closed to renovations) and explored the River Oak Trail, a skating circuit through a forest. PCAHA Team 2 came together as a team improving their play as the tournament progressed, but did not qualify for the medal games.

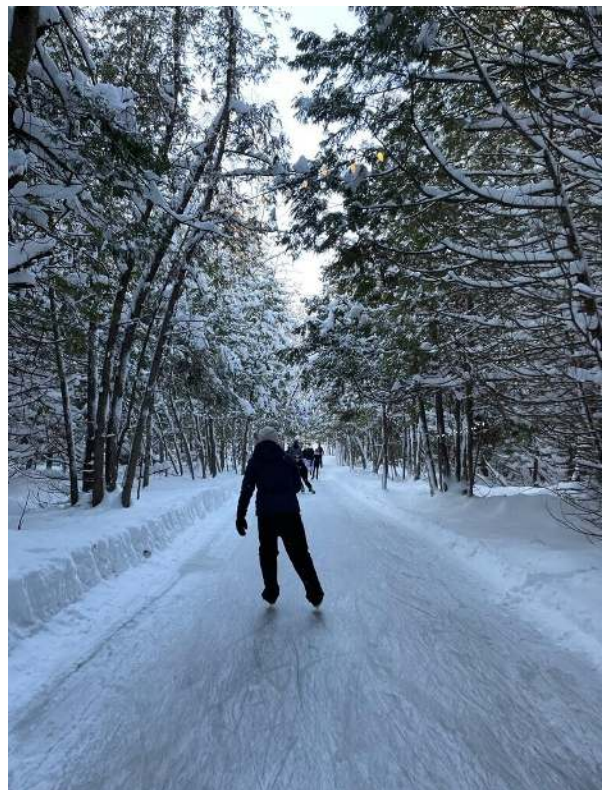


Sammi Lam was also at the Paint it Purple tournament representing BMHA on U15 Team 2. Sammi was a key member of the team earning Player of the Game recognition and leading her team into the final versus the Kanata Rangers. U15 Team 2 fell just short in the game so the team brought home a silver medal. A highlight of the trip was attending the Ottawa Senators game versus the Montreal Canadiens!

This is the third year the PCAHA Female High Performance program has operated and the first time the teams were able to travel. It was a great success for all 4 teams to travel and compete in Ontario, and the hardware was a welcome bonus!



# WILDCATS NEWS



STIX N PUX





BMHA's Spring Blast Tournament is back! This year we have teams coming from the Whitehorse and Prince Rupert. The tournament runs March 10 - 19 and we will have two divisions U11 & U15. The tournament will feature an exciting skills competition! Come down to the rink & support your Bulldogs!

[U11 Schedule](#)

[U15 Schedule](#)



Early February we lost a member of our hockey community. Delta Academy and former Semiahmoo player Robin Janjua passed away. Robin's brother was on the Semi team this year and played on their U18A2 team. The Semiahmoo team was to be in the Ridge Meadows Tournament over the Family day weekend and decided it was best to not attend the tournament. To honor the family and Robin's memory the tournament held a moment of silence before each game. BMHA U18A2 players also taped their sticks with blue tape to support the Semiahmoo team which was their color of choice.



Our rostered officials had a fun night of hockey

## Follow BMHA on social media



FB @bmhahockey  
IG @burnabyminorbulldogs

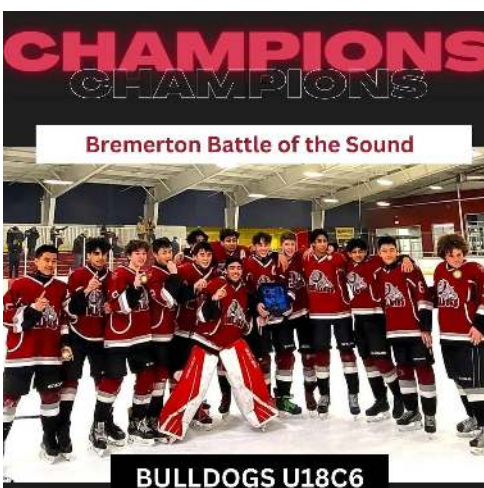
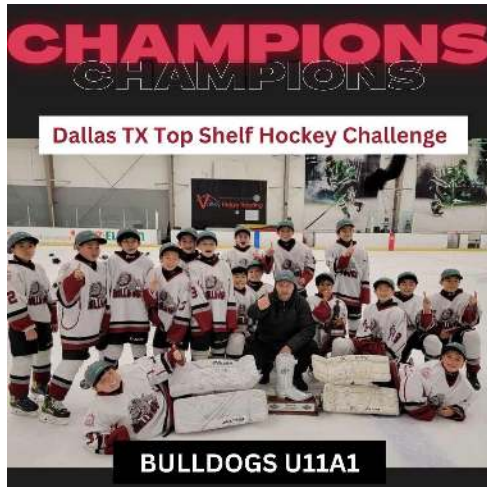


FB @burnabywildcats  
IG @burnabyfemalewildcats

Send your team pics and news to  
[socialmedia@burnabyminor.com](mailto:socialmedia@burnabyminor.com)



# TOURNAMENTS



**Follow BMHA on social media**

 **BULLDOGS**  
 FB @bmhahockey  
 IG @burnabyminorbulldogs

 **WILDCATS**  
 FB @burnabywildcats  
 IG @burnabyfemalewildcats

Send your team pics and news to  
[socialmedia@burnabyminor.com](mailto:socialmedia@burnabyminor.com)



# AWARD NOMINATIONS

Each year, we ask for nominations of outstanding individuals who have helped make the season great! Awards are available for both our integrated Bulldogs programs and our female Wildcats programs.

There are three category of awards: Player Awards, Goaltender Awards, Team Staff Awards. These awards are presented each year at a special ceremony after the conclusion of the season.

Nominations can be accepted from everyone, including our team officials, general membership and the community. Additional information is encouraged to assist in the selection of deserving individuals for our awards. Attachments can also be provided if this can help support your nomination. You can nominate an individual in more than one category. To be eligible for any award, the individuals must be a registered member in good standing with the BMHA

## Player Awards

- Gary Boyle Memorial Award - Sportsmanship, Character & Hockey Ability
- Most Valuable Female Player
- Alfred Balfry Memorial Award - \$1000 Bursary - Must be Grade 12 Student - Team Play, Character, Sportsmanship & Hockey Ability. Those nominated will be contacted for additional information.

## Goaltender Awards

- Most Valuable Goaltender - Rep
- Terry MacLean Memorial Award - Most Valuable Goaltender - House
- Jack Gilroy Award - Outstanding Goaltender – U11 House
- Most Valuable Female Goaltender

## Team Staff Awards

- Don Boyd Memorial Award - Service to the Association
- Rep Coach of the Year
- House Coach of the Year
- Female Team Coach of the Year
- Tony Marzitelli Memorial Award - Outstanding Team Manager
- Safety Award - Outstanding HCSP volunteers in the area of safety and risk management at the team level

## Nomination Deadline is March 26, 2023

To nominate please go to <https://www.burnabyminor.com/awards/>

# VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION & AWARDS BANQUET

The Executive of the Burnaby Minor Hockey Association is very pleased to announce the return of our annual **Volunteer Appreciation and Awards Banquet**.

This event celebrates the amazing people who have made our BMHA season such a success ... our team officials and other volunteers!

**DATE:** Saturday, April 15, 2023

**TIME:** 6:00 pm start

**LOCATION:** Hilton Vancouver Metrotown Hotel - Crystal Ballroom

Evening highlights include: Special guest speakers, musical entertainment, a great meal, BMHA Awards and a great time!

Previous year's banquets have been a great success ... with legendary junior hockey coach Ernie "Punch" McLean, former BMHA members Wayne Van Dorp, Mike Santorelli, Garrett MacDonald and Rob Pritchard, NHL Scout Tim Keon and former Canucks great Darcy Rota as some of our guest speakers.

Further details will be sent directly to teams soon, but we are asking all BMHA Managers/Coaches to contact their team staff and start preparing for this upcoming event.



Invitations to each BMHA team will include:

1. All officially "rostered" team staff are invited at no charge.
2. Each team will be permitted to invite a maximum of two other non-rostered individuals (adults only) at no charge.
3. Additional team guest tickets will be sold at the door for \$20.00 – Cash Only."



# PCAHA SCHOLARSHIP TOURNAMENTS

Each year the PCAHA holds special recognition events to promote the ideals of scholastic achievement and sportsmanship combined with participation in Minor Hockey at the U18 and U21 levels, and to showcase the talents of players in these divisions. We are proud of our BMHA athletes and volunteers who participated in these tournaments!



Jayden Bains - game MVP U21  
Scholarship Tournament Game 1!



David Lawrence - game MVP for the Canucks U21  
Scholarship Tournament



Matthew Ng - game MVP for the Oilers U18A  
Scholarship Tournament!



Matthew Ng - Two MVP awards in the U18A  
Scholarship Tournament! Matthew was  
named Game MVP in the Oilers Gold Medal  
game also

# PCAHA SCHOLARSHIP TOURNAMENTS



Mario Riccardi and Ward Findlay from BMHA helped as team officials with the @pcahamain U21 Scholarship Tournament.



BMHA hosted game 5 of the U18A Scholarship Tournament!



Sue Wong helped out as the team manager U18A Scholarship Tournament Oilers.

## Free Courses from the Respect Group

BC Hockey and Hockey Canada's long-time partner, Respect Group, is offering an incredible opportunity to BC Hockey Members for a limited time only.

The Respect Group supplies many online training programs and tools that are used throughout our branch and nationwide to help make our game safer for all participants, volunteers and members.

BC Hockey Members can now access several of these Respect Group programs at no cost until April 30th.

These positive, proactive programs offer an opportunity, for all of us, to help ensure a safe and respectful hockey culture.

[Click here to register](#)

- Respect in Sport for Parents
- Respect in Sport for Officials
- Keeping Girls in Sport
- Stay in the Game