

Monthly Newsletter

Premier
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Partner



Muskoka Highlands U15D Bears
with toy donations outside
Canadian Tire Bracebridge in
December

January 2024



Hockey Gives Back to the Community!

On Sat. Dec. 16th, the South Muskoka Bears U15 D team, sponsored by Muskoka Highlands, spent their morning raising awareness of, and taking donations for the annual Salvation Army's Holiday Toy Drive. The Canadian Tire store in Bracebridge graciously allowed the team to set up outside for the morning and the team reached out to local shoppers going into the Canadian Tire requesting that they either donate money or donate a new unwrapped toy or gift. It was amazing to see the overwhelming response from the community! Many, many shoppers, both young and old, part of our SMMHA family and new friends, without hesitation donated funds or came out of the store after having purchased a gift to donate. The team's slogan was "fill the net" as they had set up a hockey net outside of the store and fill the net the community did! Bailey the Bear was there to greet shoppers in Canadian Tire and gave out candy canes to young and old alike. It was really heartwarming to see the generosity from so many people which made the day such a success. The team is so thankful to Muskoka Highlands golf course for not only being our team sponsor but for also starting off the pre-event donations with a \$250 cash donation. Before the event, the team raised over \$1,200 in cash from local businesses and generous private donors and just over \$700 was collected on-site, which the team then spent in Canadian Tire buying gifts; about 7 shopping carts in total. A special shout out to the Manager of Canadian Tire in Bracebridge who generously donated the last two carts of toys in the amount of approximately \$500. That was very unexpected but so appreciated! This donation allowed the team to have funds to purchase toiletries, mitts and hats. And that is on top of the hockey net full of gifts that were generously donated by the public. After needing three trucks to pack up the toys, the donations will be divided amongst the Bracebridge and Gravenhurst Salvation Army locations and delivered on Monday Dec. 18th by Bears players. Thanks again to Muskoka Highlands, Bracebridge Canadian Tire, the Salvation Army and all of our team players and parents for working together to make this Christmas brighter for so many children and teens in our community. -Lyndsay J., Team Manager U15 D Bears

A big shout out to all the other teams who did a fabulous job over the holidays giving back to the community, you make us proud!

Need to Give Us Feedback?



THE SECOND SEASON

The second season has already begun for our 8 rep teams with each team required to play a total of 8 games by February 4, 2024. A round robin series will follow where teams will compete to secure a spot in the semifinals in March.

Our U9 players have been working hard and preparing to transition to full ice games this month! Each team will have opportunities to play locally and also travel to nearby centres.

The remainder of our local league teams are continuing to have a successful season with some looking forward to playing in various tournaments throughout the province.

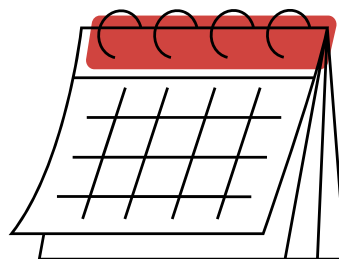
-Julie Hogue, Director- Ice Scheduler



SMMHA is thrilled to be hosting another NHL/NHLPA First Shift program for 2024! Due to it's overwhelming success last year this program is now completely full. The first shift program is designed to ensure a positive experience for new-to-hockey families. Families can experience the game at its best- to understand why so many Canadians feel an inherent love for the sport, and to simulate a desire for continued participation. Any concerns are removed as it related to equipment requirements, and/or rules of the game, remove potential safety concerns, and most importantly, provide an experience that is memorable and FUN!

The First Shift Program Welcome Event for all registered participants is scheduled for:

**Saturday, January 20, 2024 from 1:00 - 1:30 PM
at the Bracebridge Memorial Arena.**



You Asked: 'How do I find rankings and player stats?'

Your team manager can assist you with accessing player stats, things like goals, assists and penalty minutes.