



Opening Message

Warman Minor Hockey Membership,

The 2025-26 hockey season has ended which means the newsletter is back in business, and we'll endeavor to provide monthly updates year-round. One of the refreshers is a change to the name of the newsletter as it is being rebranded as **Wildcats Rinkside** and will be known by that from here on out.

High-level highlights of the season:

- MNP Arena opened!
- WMHA grew from 780 to 835 players and 52 to 56 teams
- Outside ice usage was reduced from 515 to 94 hours and no teams in U11 or younger had to travel
- Tournaments were brought back to the community
- 200+ games were added because of tournaments, giving more opportunities for officials to grow
- 2 new banners will hang from the rafters

For 2026-27, initial forecasting shows WMHA holding to similar registration numbers although the number of players and teams within each division may change.

One notable accomplishment that needs to be mentioned was the increase in parent feedback we received this season; WMHA saw an increase of 31% over last year in receiving 462 unique responses across all levels as compared to 352 in 2024-25. This information is crucial for WMHA to use in providing constructive feedback to coaches and discussing items for potential improvements in 2026-27.

Continuous improvement will continue to be the buzzword for WMHA as we move forward. The parent feedback and the recent AGM both highlight items we need to review, and we will continue to make what we feel are the best decisions we can for the growth of the Association and the enjoyment of all players.

We would also like to make note that Lyndon Thompson has stepped down from his President's role, after 5 years holding that position. He's not moving very far though, as he will still be part of the Executive as Past President where he can still provide guidance and help identify a potential Presidential successor in 2027-28. WMHA will continue to operate as normal in this modified setup, and we would like to thank Lyndon for spending another season with us before he fully transitions away from the group.

WMHA is still looking for a U13 Administrator and will be fielding inquiries until May 22 and once past that point, will discuss and assign the position. Thanks to those that have already inquired.

Numerous announcements are part of the May Edition of **Wildcats Rinkside**, and please stay tuned to social media for further information releases. Registration is now 25 days away!

On behalf of your 2026-27 Executive,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob'.

Rob Obrigewitch
Director of Hockey Operations

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Joel'.

Joel Thon
Vice President

WILDCATS RINKSIDE

2026-27 WMHA EXECUTIVE

Past President: Lyndon Thompson

Vice-President: Joel Thon

Player Development: Owen Black

Goalie Development: Lacey Huber (new)

Referee In Chief: Brian Hubbard

Events/Promotions: Lindsey Beal (new)

Equipment Admin: Lesa Heath

AAA Administrator: Stu Pietersma

Female AA Administrator: Brittany Hoskins

Female Administrator: Mandy Heidt (new)

Coed AA Administrator: Doug Harms

U15/U18 Administrator: Erin Hoffman

U13 Administrator: Vacant

U11 Administrator: Todd Markus

U9 Administrator: Dennis Huber

U7 Administrator: Jackie Salzl

WMHA would like to thank the following departing Executive Members for their terms of service: Jeremy Thompson (7 years) and Tara Campbell (1 year).

2026-27 REGISTRATION DATES TO REMEMBER

- **June 1:** Regular registration opens at 12:00pm
- **June 15:** 4 on 4 registration opens at 12:00pm
- **June 25:** Regular registration closes at 11:59pm
- **July 1:** Late registration opens at 12:00pm (late fees apply)
- **July 1:** AA camp registration opens at 12:00pm
- **July 30:** 4 on 4 registration closes at 11:59pm
- **August 27:** Late registration closes at 11:59pm
- **August 27:** AA camp registration closes at 11:59pm

To register, visit www.warmanwildcats.com and click on the **REGISTRATION** tab



MISSION STATEMENT

TO PROMOTE AND PROVIDE A HIGH QUALITY, ORGANIZED HOCKEY EXPERIENCE FOR ALL PLAYERS IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF FUN, SKILL DEVELOPMENT, SPORTSMANSHIP, AND TEAM CAMARADERIE

OBJECTIVES

- To foster personal excellence in each player, within all age divisions and programs
- To increase individual self-esteem and confidence of all participants
- To nurture the development of both life skills and hockey skills
- To create a fun environment with lasting memories



WILDCATS RINKSIDE



Hockey Saskatchewan Regulation Changes for 2026-27

Hockey Saskatchewan has made some changes to regulations for the upcoming season. Below are the items most pertinent to WMHA members and a full listing can be found on the Hockey Saskatchewan website.

- Adjustments to linespersons and official coaches pay rates
- Games in U9 and U11 can now start on November 1
- U18AAA and U18AA have the 5-game playing maximum removed for 2nd year U15 APs
- All AA teams are now required to have a minimum of 17 players registered, including 2 goaltenders
- Coaching requirement is changing from "Respect in Sport" to "The Shift Forward"; current RIS holders will be ok for 2 years before being required to switch over

Awards Night



Congratulations to all the winners on Awards night! It was wonderful to see everyone and celebrate the incredible achievements across our teams. Below is a recap of the specialty awards in the Association.

Coach of the Year

Jaymon Hill, U15A Wolverines

Manager of the Year

Leigh Anne Cripps, U15AA Female Wildcats

Volunteer of the Year

Tannis Beattie, U15A Wolverines

10-Year Builder Award

Doug Harms

Tyler Gidluck Memorial Award

Henry Black, U13AA Wildcats
Sloan Hoskins, U13AA Female Wildcats

Austyn Schenstead Memorial Award

Charlie Evans, U18AA Wildcats

Official of the Year

Grady McMahon

Most Dedicated Official

Alexander Huber

Most Promising Official

Dylan Semchyshen

Most Improved Official

Jace Johnson

WILDCATS RINKSIDE

Calling All 2022 Future Wildcats....

WMHA is announcing a trial program in 2026-27 for 2022 born players looking to be part of a U5 hockey program.

This will be a sanctioned Hockey Canada program designed to introduce beginner skating and skills to 4-year olds to make the integration into U7 easier the following season.

U5 registration will open on June 1, 2026 and is available to residents of the immediate WMHA drawing area. Registration fees will be \$400.00.

Further details will be shared via social media prior to June 1.



Provincial Champs!

Congratulations to the U15A Warman Wolverines for winning the provincial championship on March 21 against Prairie Storm. The Wolverines went 4-0 in defeating Battleford and Martensville in earlier rounds, but were pushed to the 3rd game against Prairie Storm, ultimately winning in sudden death, 1-0!



City Champs!

The U18B Lions brought home our only City Championship banner this season. Their run saw them start with 3 straight wins before taking a loss, but they came back to rattle off 3 more wins capped off by a 7-5 victory over the Renegade Kings at Merlis Belsher Place!

Why did the zamboni driver call a plumber?

Because the rink was flooded!

