



Greetings 2025-2026 Hockey Families!

Hope everyone is having a wonderful summer thus far! We are busy in the background gearing up for another fun and exciting season of Black Hawks Hockey! Our 2025-2026 season will be upon us before we know it! We have some new families joining us, which means it's a great time to communicate a few key points!

Families of players "brand new" to hockey - you will need to complete an Ontario Minor Hockey Association mandatory online module called "Parent Respect in Sport". Your certificate of completion number will need to be added to your players Hockey Canada Profile before they can be officially rostered and will need to be completed before they step on the ice for the season.

Head Coaches have been appointed, and they are in the midst of assembling their bench staff. Bench staff are encouraged to ensure their Vulnerable Sector Check is either valid for the season or applied for at your first opportunity. If your VSC is valid from the previous year, you will still need to complete an affidavit and upload that to your HCR profile. OMHA has made it clear any volunteers who have not attached their VSC to their HCR profile will not be able to be on a bench until that is completed – the grace period previously extended has been eliminated. Your Junior Convenors U5-U11 will once again be Lynz Jackson and Erin Callahan while your Senior Convenors will be Liz Page and Jane Sokol-Kennedy.

Please see our website www.pointminor.ca and or our Facebook Page "Point Edward Minor Athletic Association" for regular updates and information related to the upcoming season.

Our rosters are fluid with some movement still occurring. We have seen some movement of wait listed players being added to rosters. Please continue to keep an eye on your email if you are waiting for a spot and please let us know if you do not want your spot any longer!

In order to maintain stable registration fees and be able to offer paid tournament participation, extras like "Spirit Day" and a fabulous Year End celebration, fundraising is crucial. In the past few years, we have been fortunate to have bingo and meat raffle revenue and a highly successful Giresi's Pizza Kit fundraiser. Individual teams are welcome to do smaller scale fundraisers such as bottle drives, popcorn sales etc. but must consult PEMAA to ensure the fundraising does not impact the lottery licensing rules. For instance, we are not allowed to run any raffles or booze draws etc. as those types of raffles could result in our lottery license being suspended.

Last year, we piloted "mandatory volunteer credits". Families were required to submit a post-dated cheque and complete 4 credits per player.

Each adult who works a meat raffle earns one credit which can be achieved in approximately 2 hours (or less sometimes!). Essentially, 4 credits are approximately 8 hours of your time over a seven-month time span. Most families had no trouble completing their credits and having their cheque destroyed or returned to them. There are several ways to earn volunteer credits.

Participating on a sub-committee for Sprit Day or the Jamboree for example...working a kitchen shift during the Jamboree, cleaning up at the Year End banquet etc. All of the available opportunities will be listed on our “sign up genius” link which will be available on our website and posted regularly on our Facebook page. We encourage you to book your credits as soon as possible in order to have the first pick of the available opportunities.

Every Friday from now until the end of August, PEMAA is hosting Meat Raffles at Two Amigos. Kids are welcome throughout the raffles and the upside of completing your volunteer credits by working meat raffles is that you meet other families in our program and the kids have fun while we make moolah. The food is great, drinks are cold etc. It's a fairly quick and painless way to knock off a credit or two this summer. We typically need 3-4 sellers each week, first come first serve for snagging those spots!

Families are encouraged to track the credits they complete (we will be tracking as well) so that you are always aware of how many you have completed and how many you have outstanding. If you take advantage of the meat raffle opportunities, you could have your credits achieved before you need to submit your cheque.

High School students are still welcome to apply to be an “on ice helper” and accumulate volunteer hours however, those hours cannot be used to achieve mandatory volunteer credits. If you have specific questions about the volunteer credits, please put them in an email to Jane Kennedy and send them to HSC@pointminor.ca

Finally, we want to remind everyone, PEMAA is a member of the Lambton Middlesex Local League. This league is considered “recreational”. This means, we do not host “try outs”. We promote fun, inclusivity, skill development and a family friendly atmosphere. Our league has some competitive teams in their larger centres ie: Belmont, Lucan, Mount Brydges etc. smaller centres like Point Edward who only have one team per age group, can sometimes find it a bit frustrating to compete with larger centres. So, this gentle reminder is about “managing expectations”...our hope/expectation is that families are arriving at the rink with realistic expectations around potential, skill and team standings. Any instance where the opposite is occurring will be addressed as needed.

We are very much looking forward to seeing everyone back at the rink and will keep you posted on ice-production, season start date and scheduling as the news trickles down to us! In the meantime, enjoy your summertime fun, hockey will be here before you know it!

Yours in hockey,

PEMAA

