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April 8, 2013

To: Parents and players of Surrey Female Hockey Association (SFHA)

Review of the 2012-13 Hockey Season and Preparation for 2013-14 Hockey Season

Hello, everyone.

As we wind down another hockey season, I would like to take this opportunity to provide you a brief update on our current hockey season and the initial planning for the 2013-14 hockey season.

First and foremost, I hope that you had an enjoyable experience this hockey season. I know there are many team success stories ranging from winning tournaments/banners, winning in the playoffs, advancing to the BC Hockey Provincial championships or simply having fun/building friendships.

Over many years, SFHA has built a strong base for our female hockey program making it one of the leaders in female hockey in British Columbia. This base helped SFHA this season to maintain strong registration numbers resulting in teams from Tyke to Juvenile. The current SFHA management team continued to make enhancements to our program – for example, the implementation of online registration, more transparency around the rep evaluation process by using paid independent evaluators, the implementation of a more robust player development program, the implementation of a formal sponsorship program, formal awards/scholarships and the introduction of online surveys to efficiently obtain feedback from parents. Another highlight this season was our very successful SuperHeart tournament. Prudent management of our finances has placed our Association in a stronger financial position – this will allow our Association more flexibility in the future to develop our program.

This season, a greater emphasis was placed on using our website for communication purposes. There will be an even greater reliance on our website for communication purposes next season; so please check our website often between now and September for important updates relating to the 2013-14 hockey season (e.g. registration instructions, rep evaluation instructions, etc.).

SFHA is also introducing two online surveys to collect information: one relating the performance of our coaches and one to obtain feedback from you on various matters. Both surveys will be available through our website and are anonymous. I encourage you to take a few moments to complete both surveys by the end of April 2013 as this information will be helpful in planning the 2013-14 season.

I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped make this a successful season. This includes all our dedicated team officials (coaches, team managers, safety persons, team moms), my colleagues on the SFHA management team and all the parents who have helped in any way over the season. All of you played a very important role in helping to make this a successful hockey season, so again, thanks.

The SFHA team wind-up event and the Annual General Meeting are being held on April 14, 2013. I encourage all of you to attend both events to help celebrate our 2012-13 successes and to help plan for the 2013-14 hockey season.

Planning has already commenced for the 2013-14 hockey season. One challenge to SFHA is the lack of local ice, so other options will need to be considered if we want to further build our hockey program. Due

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to this lack of ice, it is very challenging for us to register more players and there is a need to restrict the number of players we will register for the 2013-14 hockey season. SFHA does not want to turn away any player but, unless more ice can be obtained, the reality of the situation is that we must restrict the number of players that will be registered. Important information relating to registration for next season will be posted on our website by the end of April - at this time, it is anticipated that closed registration for returning players will be during the month of May. At the end of the closed registration period, SFHA will then open registration to new players to join our Association. To ensure being registered on a team for next season (due to the need to restrict registration numbers), it is very important that returning players are registered during the closed registration period because the open registration process will register players in the order they apply.

SFHA is looking for volunteers and ideas to help enhance our hockey program; I would appreciate if you would contact me if you can help in any way or have an idea that will enhance our hockey program.

In closing, I hope all of you had an enjoyable 2012-13 hockey season and SFHA looks forward to seeing you back for the 2013-14 hockey season.

Gary Eaton, President  
SFHA