



October , 2013

**Dear Coach's, Players and Parents;**

Welcome to the 2013 – 2014 hockey season. The league now has 22 teams and the capacity for 352 players. SCYH's registration is down this year, consequently we still have room in every age group. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all volunteers the executive, the conveners, the coaches, the referee coordinators and referees that make each season possible. Due to life we have lost several key people on the executive, presently we are doubling up on various tasks but more hands make light work. We also have lost a key volunteer to cancer who coached and refereed for years even after his son aged out of the league. Ron Ferguson will be missed by many, our condolences go out to his friends and relatives. Volunteers are needed on the executive and referees are needed, especially in Group D where at least one adult referee is required for each game. We do need to add new volunteers to the roster to keep this league going.

Please be aware that the coaches and volunteers have done their best to pick teams that are evenly balanced. With the high volume of players, the league has done their best to accommodate requests to be placed on a certain team or with a certain player, unfortunately not all requests could be met and matched to the leagues policy of keeping the teams evenly matched. As the league has grown it has become more difficult to accommodate all requests. Late registrations with requests sometimes may not be able to be accommodated at all, finding a place on a team is the most that can be done. Siblings more than 2 years apart in age can not be kept together even upon request. Also please keep in mind that the **teams are not finalized** and players may be switched to other teams in the next few weeks to insure that the teams are as evenly matched as possible to allow all teams equal opportunity to win.

AS a reminder SCYH is a youth **non contact recreational hockey** league with the goal to learn the game of hockey and have fun with everyone getting equal opportunity to play. With these goals in mind, behaviors unacceptable to the league are as follows; disrespect for the referees, coaches, teammates, opposing team players, this includes name calling and any use of foul language and as this is a non contact league any form of ruffness or dirty playing of any sort, (some examples would be slashing, tripping, checking, cross checking from behind etc.) are all unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Expect game suspensions for these infractions. We expect a high level of good sportsmanship from all. We ask that everyone support this including coaches, parents and players.

There are conveners for each age group, if you have any questions or concerns please contact them. Their contact information is on the web site [www.scyh.ca](http://www.scyh.ca). Also if you wish to contact any of the executive, we value your comments and concern, again go to the website for our contact information, email is preferable in most cases so the executive can accommodate league business when it is convenient without interfering with their work or family time.

There is spirit wear available again this year through KYIS Embroidery in Strathroy. You can go directly to the store or there is a link from the league's website to KYIS.

Just a reminder the league requires full equipment including neck and mouth guards and players will be asked to leave the ice until the equipment is obtained. The referees or coaches can call it at anytime.

The league held a referee clinic there was a good turn out and our volunteers learned some great tips on how to watch the play and ref the games. Thanks to all who organized it and those who took the time to participate. But please remember the NHL ref's make mistakes and they are highly trained and well paid. So expect our volunteer refs to make mistakes. It is the leagues expectation from all (parents, coaches and players etc.) to just go with it remember this is a fun, recreational league winning or losing a game has no lasting importance but getting to play hockey is important and that is a privilege that can be taken for not respecting the refs and getting game suspensions or not having refs available for games because no volunteer wants the job due to the verbal abuse and lack of respect. This has been an issue in the past and we are very low on referees especially for the Friday games. Let's encourage and respect all our volunteers without them this league would fold.

Pictures will be in January 17 & 18, schedule to follow.

Year end pizza party will be March 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>.

Just a quick reminder the web site [www.scyh.ca](http://www.scyh.ca) has a wealth of information, contact info., schedules, referee schedules, equipment lists, etc. please check it out. Join us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/scyhockey> Like us and you will get notified of upcoming events, reminders to register, etc.

We wish all participants, coaches, players, referees, parents, etc to have a fun filled safe season.

**LET'S PLAY HOCKEY!!!!**

Sincerely

Heather Langdon  
President and on behalf of the Executive