

Chebucto Minor Hockey

Recreation 'C'

2023-24

We had another great year in Rec C at Chebucto! This was my 10th year coaching, and 2nd year as Rec VP. This season I believe we were able to implement a few positive changes. A special thanks to some people who were very helpful, and as always went above and beyond for Chebucto... Craig Myra, Craig Messervey, Suzanne Keith and Katie Murphy.

The biggest of the positive changes mentioned above was our new "all inclusive" pre-season approach. With the help of our Pres, EVP & VP Comp, our competitive team selection process evolved this year. Competitive team rosters were created with attention to Recreation team numbers at all age levels. This plan ensured *all* teams at Chebucto, including every Rec C team, had at least one goalie and a reasonable size roster. No more 18+ player rosters, or teams without a full time goaltender.

Another addition to the Rec C program was our Sunday Development sessions. Sharing the ice with Keepers Club, we were able to have some great skating & skill sessions- especially U11. Thanks to VP Development Bryan Esbaugh for his help coordinating this.

This year we had 9 teams at the various age levels. Our 3 U11C teams had a fun season, with the Hurricanes playing in Bronze semi finals, and the Storm making the Silver semis. The Lightning players & coaches worked really hard to improve all year!

We had 2 U13C teams. The Attack came within a game of the semis, and the Chargers won Gold in their division!

Our one U15C team started slow, but also made it to divisional semi finals.

The U18C Grey played their way into Silver division, and U18C Chill battled hard all year too.

U23 is a great division. These are young adults who still want to play organized minor hockey. They were strong all season and won the U23C MMHL championship!

Looking forward, as our community grows, we are seeing an increase in kids looking to try the game for the first time. These players will inevitably start out in the Rec C division. Creating a program to help these players learn the fundamentals could be beneficial. They could still be part of a team & practice. This would help coaches with the challenge of running practices and giving new players the attention they need. (Additional development to get these type of players "game ready".) This could also help attract new families to Chebucto and possibly increase registration numbers.

It takes a lot of people to run minor hockey. I want to personally thank all the Coaches, Managers, Safety Reps and Parents of our teams. Without you we couldn't do it. Hope to see you all next season!

Shawn Birt
VP Recreation, Chebucto Minor Hockey