



2019 Jr Ladies Commissioner Season Report

The 2019 season saw the Jr Ladies decrease from 7 to 6 teams. This came into effect as the season was already underway due to the unexpected low number of players registration on the Axemen.

With the Okotoks Raiders having a small roster, the decision was made between the two clubs and I for the betterment of the game to merge the two teams for the 2019 season. This made the season more competitive and positive for the players in the entire division.

As we are still working on what/when we will be doing for a draft, the graduating 2019 midgets who reside in the laid out Axemen boundaries will become free agents.

We did not receive any requests for a new team for 2019 however, we did have Red Deer speak at the end of our AGM breakout session and suggest that they are interested in putting forward for a 2020 Jr Ladies team.

There continues to be 3 teams in the North and now are 3 teams in the South. We had 151 players on 6 teams for the 2019 season. In 2018 we had 155 players on 7 teams. So, our numbers are down by 4 players. We also had 9 players who signed their player of intent but did not play on a team.

We did receive five requests for midgets to play 1 extra year instead of moving up to juniors which was approved. There were 7 female midgets who played in the boys league on 2019.

The 2020 season will have 20 graduating Juniors. 11 from the North, six from the South and 3 from CALL. They have all been encouraged to continue with Senior Ladies Lacrosse.

There were 116 female graduating midgets from the 2018 season of which 47 were registered to a Jr Ladies team (and the Senior Rage) in 2019. Retention is 41%, a decrease from 2017 season where retention was 47%.

There were also two DOB 2002 registered in 2019 to a Jr Ladies team who are not on the 2018 female graduating midget list. Not included in the 41% retention are the 4 graduating midgets where approval was given to play another year of midget as over age and the 3 graduating midgets that completed an intent to play but who were not on a final Jr Ladies team roster.

Looking forward in 2020 we must do a better job growing our retention. Follow up on all these kinds of issues are key to retention and are required.

Our number of affiliates was definitely down this season and that was due to the large numbers on each team. Although it is great to see, we still would like to have midget players come up and experience playing in a junior game in the season.

Although we received the midget graduating list earlier than last year, we have once again suggested that the list would be more beneficial before the season is over. This is so the coaching staff and team can start to build some type of relationship with these players. I Believe this could be most beneficial to retention.

We did play a 16 game interlocking schedule with the Senior Ladies for the 2019 season and will discuss if we will continue the interlocking schedule for 2020. These games did count for the Jr Ladies statistics.

Congratulations to the Calgary Cardinals who won Provincials in the Jr Ladies division. The format was a mini tournament with the top three teams plus the host. Thank you to the Edmonton Saints for putting on a great Provincial Tournament.

There was no Box Team Alberta for Jr Ladies in 2019 nor do we expect there will be in 2020. There will be tryouts for the female Team Alberta U19 field lacrosse. Dates TBA

We attended our second information session both in the North and South. We saw many Jr Ladies come to the session and it was a great way to get information out. I would expect this January in the south we will have a large number of midget girls looking for some clarification. We are looking forward to attending again this season.

We as a division must try to continue to retain the players we have as well as recruit new athletes. There were many actions discussed at the breakout session in November 2018, unfortunately team follow up to the actions discussed never proceeded despite multiple attempts of getting all the teams on board. As a division we require 100% dedication from all of our teams in order to make this happen.

Tammy Machado
Jr Ladies Commissioner