



Junior B Tier II Commissioner Report

Growth and Recruitment

The 2020 Tier II Season was to have 20 teams in total. The north division 10 teams would have consisted of the Crude, Edmonton Warriors, Parkland Posse, Sherwood Park Titans, and the Westlock Rock in the North Central Division. Lakeland Heat, Lloydminster Xtreme, Red Deer Renegades, Sylvan Lake Yeti and the Wainwright Wolfpack in the North East Division. Red Deer and Sylvan Lake moved to the North division to accommodate Cranbrook and West Kootenay moving up into the Tier II division. The South Division teams would have been Calgary Sabrecats, Calgary Axemen, High River Heat, Medicine Hat Sun Devils and the Strathmore Venom in the South Central division. The South West division would have been the Calgary Wranglers, Cranbrook Outlaws, Olds Stringers, Rockyview Rage and the West Kootenay Timberwolves. Each team was to play an 18 game season (9 home and 9 away).

Recruitment

It is important for the 2020 season that teams contact their 17 year old (third year midgets) to see their intent to play at the Junior B Tier II level with the new changes, The third year midgets must complete an Intent to Play with the ALA in order to play at the junior level. Information regarding this process was sent to the teams in September.

Season Overview

Our Tier II division was optimistic about having a 2020 season and held out until the end of June to see if any type of season could be played. Unfortunately, that did not happen. It was encouraging to see the desire of the teams to hold out as long as possible to try and have some sort of season where the players could be engaged. We will need a lot of diligence and determination to recruit and retain players for the 2021 season. Some teams ran summer programs for their cohorts which I understand were successful in keeping their teams engaged through COVID. Great job to those teams who were able to run some type of programming through a difficult time.

Season Accomplishments – NA

Season Setbacks

Obviously, the major setback was COVID and the loss of the season.

Looking to the Future/Upcoming Season Goals

Going into 2021, teams are going to have to be diligent in recruiting and retaining players. It sounds like most teams are planning to return if there is a 2021 Season. Some discussion will have to occur regarding the south division with the two teams from British Columbia. If teams will not be permitted out of province, we will need to readjust to accommodate this obstacle.