



Knighly News

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Dear PBK Families and Friends,

The 2013/2014 season has been an overwhelming success. Our house and travel programs grew significantly this year and our travel program produced unprecedented results. We increased numbers and teams at all levels. This season we fielded 4 mite house teams, a squirt house team, a mite travel team, 3 squirt travel teams, 2 pee wee travel teams, and 2 bantam travel teams. Of the 7 playoff eligible travel teams 6 made the playoffs.

We had over 40 house mites who had a blast under the overall direction of Coach Travis Swartz and the coordination of Jenn Becker. The 4 teams, led by coaches Herr, Folan, Mierzwicki, Causak, all improved and grew throughout the season. In an enhancement to our program we had 4 student coaches Maya Elliott, Jonah Hoy, Cam Ihli and Tyler Miller, who chipped in with the house program this season. Our mite program has been the foundation of our program and we expect that to continue. Great job guys.

The house squirt team led by Coaches Arnold, Deck and Kreiser had a great season culminating in a third place finish at the York house team tournament a couple weeks ago. Coach Arnold's dedication to on and off ice training was evident this season. Coach Ben proved once again that he is able to craft a successful team through hard work. We are very proud of this group of hard working kids. Great job!

Now to the travel teams, the travel mites were led by Coaches Matt Blanchard, Doug Cheyney and, with the assistance of student coach Austen Zimmerman. Our mighty mites had many successes this season. As the season progressed this team developed. The boys played hard and will be ready to compete next season. The majority of this team ages up to full ice next season. Good job guys.

The Squirt B team led by Coaches Greg Allwein, Patrick Coonelly, Art Clagett and student coach Owen Coonelly had a championship season. These boys started off the year with a championship at the York Ice Breaker tournament, followed by a Runner-up Trophy at the Hershey Labor Day tournament, and finished the year with the ultimate prize, the first PBK DVHL league championship by going undefeated, 5-0, in the playoffs. This team played with great teamwork all season, and truly had a great run and finished the season with a league record of 19-3-2 and an overall record of 34-8-4. The squirt b's outscored their opponents 218-80 this season.

The Squirt A team led by Coaches Scott Miller, Rob Schelhorn, Ed Jefferis and student coach Brenden Agee had a magical run this season. The Squirt A's, week after week, continued to win close hard fought league games. This culminated with a playoff ticket. At the playoffs these boys had an amazing showing finishing 2nd in the DVHL repeating the success of last year's Squirt A team, with virtually an entirely new roster. The Squirt A's finished the DVHL season with a 14-5-3 record and a 19-17-9 record overall. Great job.

The Squirt AA team had a great season that just came up short of the DVHL playoffs. The AA's were led by Coaches Curt Heisey, Mark West and student coach Connor Kurzenknabe. As the first PBK team to compete at the AA level, these boys played well all season and were in the hunt for a playoff spot until the last weekend of the regular season. The team competed hard all season and we expect big things from these players in the future. They finished the DVHL season with an 11-6-5 record and an overall record of 15-11-9. Good job guys.

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The next four teams accomplished something for the local youth hockey record books. Our 2 pee wee and our 2 bantam teams qualified for district play this season. We were the only program from the DVHL or the NJYHL with 4 district qualifiers in Mennen, NJ. These four teams achieved incredible success due to hard work, commitment, skill, and great coaching.

The Pee Wee B team, led by Coaches Mose Kiscadden, Mike Corricelli, Bob Hocko, and student coach Elliott, was the first PBK team to ever win a DVHL playoff championship. After a stellar regular season that saw these boys finish 2nd in the DVHL, the boys advanced to the playoffs. The Pee Wee B's simply took care of business in West Chester. They went 2-0 and became the DVHL playoff champs and district qualifiers. We are so proud of these scrappy playmakers. The boys finished the season as one of the top 4 Pee Wee B teams in the Atlantic District. They finished the DVHL season with a 19-6-2 record and an overall record of 24-15-3. Great job guys.

The Pee Wee A team is simply the winningest team in our young PBK history and one of the top tier 2 Pee Wee teams in the country, regardless of letter. Coaches Ted Russell, Doug Earp, Jeff Campbell and student coach Elliott produced a Silver Stick Regional Championship, DVHL championship and District runner up banners. These boys went undefeated at Silver Stick regionals and at the DVHL playoffs. This was the last remaining American team alive in the Silver Stick tournament finals. In addition these championships these boys won the York Icebreaker, The Hershey Thanksgiving and placed second at Pittsburgh President's day tournament. Coach Russell's crew single handily redecorated Klick Lewis arena with all their banners! Their memorable season ended with a shoot-out loss in the Atlantic District Finals. They finished with a DVHL record of 23-3-2 and an overall record of 51-6-3. Pee Wee A outscored their opponents by a jaw dropping 360-68. What an amazing run, what a great team!

The Bantam B team led by coaches Travis Swartz and Cole Nye are the Atlantic District Champs. Coach Swartz threw down the gauntlet early with his club. He stated, in August, and I quote "If I don't win a DVHL championship with this team than I failed". Well Coach Travis consider this mission accomplished. Under his incredible leadership and guidance these boys ran the table beginning at the Pittsburgh President's day tournament and culminating with an Atlantic District Championship in overtime. We are so proud of this team and we can't wait to hang PBK's first district championship banner. They finished the DVHL season 18-4-3 and 28-7-3 overall and outscored their opponents 170-78. An amazing run by a great team.

The Bantam A team led by Coaches Matt Mueller and Josh Cornell had a special season. The boys started the season with a championship at the York Ice breaker followed that up with a second place finish in Crabtown tournament. The boys finished the season as the DVHL runner ups and district qualifiers. To qualify for districts these boys followed a difficult path. After losing their initial game in the playoffs, the boys had to win their next 3 straight to qualify for districts. So that is exactly what they did. In their final DVHL playoff game they had the entire organization on the edge of their seats staring at the phones for score updates or cheering in the bleachers at Iceline. In typical PBK fashion they didn't disappoint. The boys pulled off an incredible triple overtime 3v3 thriller to advance. This team played a fast paced exciting brand of hockey that brought all ages to Klick Lewis. They finished the DVHL with a record of 23-3 and an overall record of 34-10-2 outscoring their opposition 193-85. They had a great season.

This year has been more successful than any of us could have expected. Simply put you are a member of the most successful club in the entire DVHL this season, not just the most successful program in Central Pennsylvania. PBK had the highest winning percentage and point percentage in the entire league. We had 4 DVHL playoff championships, 2 outright league championships, 2 DVHL runner ups, 4 Atlantic District qualifiers, 1 Atlantic District champion and 1 Atlantic District runner-up. These accomplishments have set the bar that much higher for next season. It is our expectation to replicate this success next season with the following travel teams, a midget 16 team, 2 bantam teams, 3 pee wee teams, 3 squirt teams and a mite team.

As a reminder travel evaluations are the week of April 14th. Please keep an eye out for the evaluation schedule.

As always thank you for your continued support of Black Knights Hockey.

Todd Chan